

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

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LITERATURE

Underwoods. By Robert Louis Stevenson.
(Chatto & Windus.)

UPON his poetic firstlings Mr. Stevenson has bestowed the name of 'Underwoods,' which in a modestly apologetic introductory quatrain he owns to having stolen. It is futile to cavil at a title, especially when, as in this instance, it is intrinsically musical and beautiful, and in a sense appropriate. There is moreover something in this collection that recalls the lyrics on which "rare Ben Jonson" bestowed the graceful name of 'Underwoods.' Herrick, however, Ben's loyal and devoted pupil, is suggested more frequently than his master, and the more fantastic title of 'Hesperides,' which Herrick chose for his "numbers," might, on the whole, be considered more appropriate than 'Underwoods' to these poems of a later day.

That Mr. Stevenson possesses a distinct lyrical gift is revealed in his 'A Child's Garland of Verses,' and in the one or two short and tender poems included in his 'Travels with a Donkey.' His present volume will secure him a place among the poets. His position in the Olympian hierarchy may not easily be fixed. As first fruits his unpretending volume cannot compare with the efforts of the greatest of his predecessors. His language is well selected and beautiful, his thoughts are graceful and intellectually stimulating or satisfying, and the whole has a music at once caressing and provocative, like ripples of laughter which disturb without breaking repose. Alternately tender and playful, he pleases and does not weary. On the other hand, his happiest phrases come short of full inspiration, a thought is rarely crystallized into a gem, a word still more rarely ennobled by employment. Here and there a line is supremely happy in workmanship, and a compound epithet is admirably chosen. It comes, however, in obedience to a summons. Add to this that the utterances are individual rather than dramatic, that the moods and fancies of the writer are clothed in poetic phrase, and that there is little attempt to go far outside himself, and less attempt to extort from nature a sympathetic response to human aspiration or suffering, and the limits of Mr. Stevenson's early efforts in verse are indicated.

No poem in the volume is prettier in fancy or more careful in execution than that entitled 'The Canoe Speaks.' It is noteworthy moreover as revealing a feeling for sensuous beauty which is not common in Mr. Stevenson's work. Leaving to the ships the great stream, the canoe loves to

Sleep
On crystal waters ankle-deep:
I, whose diminutive design,
Of sweeter cedar, pithier pine,
Is fashioned on so frail a mould,
A hand may launch, a hand withhold:
I, rather, with the leaping trout
Wind, among lilies, in and out.

I wend
Beside the cottage garden-end;
And by the nested angler fare,
And take the lovers unaware.
By willow wood and water-wheel
Speedily fleets my touching keel;
By all retired and shady spots
Where prosper dim forget-me-nots;
By meadows where at afternoon
The growing maidens troop in June
To loose their girdles on the grass,
Ah! speedier than before the glass
The backward toilet goes; and swift
As swallows quiver, robe and shift
And the rough country stockings lie
Around each young divinity.

It cannot be denied that a series of attractive pictures is here presented in verse of much beauty and of remarkable fluency. In the case of a poetling a poem such as the above, of which we have quoted all but a few lines, might safely be advanced as a credential. In the concluding picture, indeed, the homeliness and sincerity in their combination with beauty are so delightful, the qualm of modesty which subsequently arrests the picture in the middle of a line is to be regretted. If, however, single images provoke criticism, it is because from Mr. Stevenson the best is expected. The "pithier pine" of which the canoe is built fails to commend itself; the "nested angler" is a not too successful image; and the two lines

By willow wood and water-wheel
Speedily fleets my touching keel

have nothing to commend them but a trick of alliteration.

Where prosper dim forget-me-nots

is happy. Is it hypercriticism, however, to say that the word "prosper" is not happy enough? It arrests attention and fails to satisfy. A more commonplace word, such as "cluster," is to be preferred. An instance of similar daring is, we believe, from Emerson, who says—we quote from memory:—

And the untaught spring is wise
In cowslips and anemones.

In this case the assigning to the spring of absolute participation in its own beauties is successful. The prospering of the forget-me-nots is without themselves, and the idea is rather of *bourgeois* success than of conscious development of beauty. All that in our quotation follows this line is worthy of Herrick at his best. In 'The House Beautiful,' which follows, is a fine line:—

Yet shall your ragged moor receive
The incomparable pomp of eve.

The same poem also supplies a compound epithet which is musical and involves a pretty conceit:—

And every fairy wheel and thread
Of cobweb dew-bediamented.

From the fault of obscurity which besets many of our foremost poets Mr. Stevenson

is free. More knowledge of his personality than is probably possessed by the average reader is necessary to wrest from certain poems their full significance, but of intentional difficulty or perplexity cast in the student's path there is no instance. To others accordingly, rather than himself, applies the admirable counsel given in the following poem:—

Sing clearer, Muse, or evermore be still,
Sing truer or no longer sing!
No more the voice of melancholy Jacques
To wake a weeping echo in the hill;
But as the boy, the pirate of the spring,
From the green elm a living linnet takes,
One natural verse recapture—then be still.

In 'A Visit from the Sea,' lines addressed to a seagull seen inland, Mr. Stevenson sings more clearly than is common with him. His verse seems as a rule an outcome of culture and effort—successful effort. In the lines to N. V. de G. S. he proves his capacity to write blank verse at once sinuous, powerful, and musical. In beauty of diction and in the idea they enshrine the following verses reach a high mark:—

Thou to me
Art foreign, as when seamen at the dawn
Descry a land far off and know not which.
So I approach uncertain; so I cruise
Round thy mysterious islet, and behold
Surf and great mountains and loud river-bars,
And from the shore hear inland voices call.
Strange is the seaman's heart; he hopes, he fears;
Draws closer and sweeps wider from that coast;
Last, his rent sail refits, and to the deep
His shattered prow uncomfited puts back.
Yet as he goes he ponders at the helm
Of that bright island; where he feared to touch,
His spirit readventures; and for years,
When by his wife he slumbers safe at home,
Thoughts of that land revisit him; he sees
The eternal mountains beckon, and awakes
Yearning for that far home that might have been.

Exquisite throughout is this, and the line we have printed in italics opens out to the imagination a vivid picture. It is worthy to stand beside that lovely verse of Mr. Arnold's in 'Thyrsis,'

And groups under the dreaming garden trees,
which contains in itself an idyl of youth and its rapture of desire, and almost worthy to compare with the immortal line

Lone sitting by the shores of Old Romance,

or with Milton's vision of

Faery damsels met in forest wide
By knights of Logres or of Lyones,
Lancelot, or Pelleas, or Pellennore.

Some of the poems were written in periods of illness, and in most of those in English there is a remote suggestion of ache. Somewhat curiously, in the lyrics which deal most intimately with thoughts of death the verse is the lightest, and is most charged with something not far removed from humour. The lines to "H. F. Brown (written during a dangerous sickness)" begin:—

I sit and wait a pair of oars
On cis-Elysian river-shores,
Where the immortal dead have sate,
'Tis mine to sit and meditate;
To re-ascend life's rivulet,
Without remorse, without regret;
And sing my *Alma Genetrix*
Among the willows of the Styx.

In a different and more heroic spirit is the poem "Not yet, my soul," in which the poet presses on himself the duty to "defend that fort of clay" the body, "now beleaguered," and urges:—

Contend, my soul, for moments and for
Each is with service pregnant.

Like his predecessor in the composition of 'Underwoods,' Mr. Stevenson dedicates to friends many of his short poems. Instead, accordingly, of "A Vision on the muses of his friend Michael Drayton," or lines "To my truly beloved Friend, master Browne, on his Pastorals," we have poems to "Andrew Lang—dear Andrew," "with the brindled hair," to W. E. Henley, and to Henry James.

The Scottish poems may be more rapidly dismissed. In these the method of Burns in his satirical pieces seems to commend itself to Mr. Stevenson, who in his English poems shows no trace of imitation and scarcely any of outside influence. In the former also the satire, though playful, is not without a sting; 'The Scotsman's Return from Abroad' pokes some very effective fun at Scottish puritanism. In Scottish, too, as experience shows, a man may venture upon freedom of expression which is denied the chaster Southern muse. Had the resource of broad Scotch been denied Mr. Stevenson, it is to be feared we should have lost the ripe, broad humour of 'The Blast' and 'The Counterblast.' Some lines to Dr. John Brown are good and vigorous. Of the Scottish poems the best is 'A Lowden Sabbath Morn.' This contains much admirable description. In the procession to church is another of those pictures of rustic femininity in which Mr. Stevenson is happy:—

The lasses, clean frae tap to tae,
Are busked in crunklin' undercloaes;
The gartened hose, the weel-filled stays,
The nakit shift,
A' bleached on bonny greens for days,
An' white's the drift.

Verse is the blossom of most minds from which a harvest is to be expected. It is the fruit of the few, and it is only, as a rule, in the case in which it comes as fruit that the world is greatly and lastingly concerned with it. That poetry will be the fruit of Mr. Stevenson's mind remains doubtful. His blossoms are at least fair, and full of perfume and promise.

Historic Towns. Edited by E. A. Freeman, D.C.L., and the Rev. W. Hunt, M.A.—Oxford. By C. W. Boase, Fellow of Exeter College. (Longmans & Co.)

MR. BOASE is well known as an explorer of the antiquities of his university. His editions of the registers of Exeter College and of a section of the Register of Matriculations of the University are both models of exact and unobtrusive learning. But to know about the university is to know only a portion of Oxford as a whole, and the academic antiquary is always apt to take the former as the centre, as though it were the originating germ of the town. Mr. Boase, in avoiding this point of view, has, perhaps, even erred in the opposite direction. He begins his preface with the characteristically exaggerated assertion of J. R. Green "that Oxford had already seen five centuries of borough life before a student appeared within its streets," a statement which carries back the historic continuity of the town to the seventh century, a date somewhat earlier than that assigned to the foundation of St. Frideswide's. But it is plain that a nunnery does not necessarily imply a town, and it is, to say the least, unsafe to speak of any sort

of "borough life" in Oxford before the year 912; and even then the notice in the chronicle does not certainly mean more than that there was a fortress at Oxford. From this castle the town would gradually grow up; but of the date of its origin there is absolutely no evidence. Mr. Boase has carefully gathered together the scanty traces we possess of the early history of Oxford; but all that can be stated positively is little more than this, that Domesday shows that by the date of the survey the town had already attained a substantial position.

Mr. Boase relates the history of the town, first side by side with, but independent of, the university, and then gradually overpowered and oppressed by the intruding institution, until in quite modern times it regained the rank from which it had been deposed. All this he does not only with full knowledge of the materials ordinarily accessible, but with help and illustration from a literature so wide as to make one feel on every page regret that the rules of the series in which the book is published forbid his stating in foot-notes the sources whence he drew his facts. The graphic touches, the unexpected details, thus added to the history can only be estimated aright by those who are familiar with previous works of the same class. The reader feels at once, and throughout, that the book is written by one who not only knows his subject perfectly, but also knows the meaning and proportion it bears in relation to its surroundings in the greater history of England. It would be easy to fill a long article with instances of the dexterous way in which Mr. Boase lights up his story with stray notices, with unobserved or unappreciated facts—in a word, with those things which let one see into the reality of a town's history.

The growth and fortunes of the university have been described so lately, and in Mr. Maxwell Lyte's book with such scholarly thoroughness, that it is difficult for a new writer to add much in this department until he reaches the sixteenth century, where Mr. Lyte ends. But even here Mr. Boase has succeeded in putting not a few facts in a fresh setting, chiefly because he has steadily kept in view the nature of his undertaking, namely, that the university concerns him primarily as a part of the town. When he treats of the rise of the town by itself he is freer to be original. Here, from the eleventh century, where Mr. James Parker's 'Early History of Oxford' breaks off, he has no forerunner in recent times, and he is able to combine a mass of scattered information which has previously been known only to a very few special students. He enlivens his narrative with pithy extracts from charters, writs, and other documents, and with quaint explanations of puzzling words. Thus of the Bocardo prison he says:—

"The prison may have been so named, sarcastically, from the form of syllogism called Bocardo, out of which the reasoner could not 'bring himself back into his first figure' without the use of special processes. Other prisons have received sarcastic names."

The account here given of the guild system of Oxford and of the growth of the borough corporation is clear, and has many points of interest. It is curious to read that when Richard I. gave a charter to the town he

ordained "that the mayor should be butler at the coronation feast," meaning that he "should assist the Lord Mayor of London, who assisted the chief butler. The city put in a claim to this at the coronation of Charles II., and was 'allowed to perform the service, and to have and receive three maple cups for their fee'; and they received besides, as a favour, a gilt cup and cover, which is still preserved among the city plate. The ceremony was performed for the last time at the coronation of George IV."

Mr. Boase oddly omits to state the changes made in the city constitution by the Municipal Reform Act, when the ancient portreeve was abolished and a new officer was appointed with the meaningless title of sheriff.

While Mr. Boase, as we have said, fixes his attention on the history of Oxford as a city, he is far from neglecting that of the university in its midst. In a short compass he states the essential facts both of the external growth of the institution, the foundation of colleges, &c., and of the internal development, much less easy to summarize, of its studies and character. The revolution caused by the religious changes of the sixteenth century is well sketched:—

"English society seized on the universities, and adapted them to their wishes, and there is truth in the saying that in this matter the rich have divided the goods of the poor. Latimer says, in a sermon before Edward VI., 'There be none now but great men's sons in colleges, and their fathers like not to have them preachers.' The unattached student was also tending to disappear, and victuals were growing so dear, owing to the debasement of the coinage, that few poor men could live at the university. The schools being unfrequented, four or five of them, which joined to the Divinity School, were bought by certain citizens, by them pulled down and their sites made gardens. The schools of arts, rebuilt all under one roof by Thomas Hokenorton, Abbot of Osney in the time of Henry VI., were used by laundresses to dry their clothes."

In the later centuries the interest is at once widened and contracted. The connexion of the university with the common life and society of England becomes closer and lends itself readily to a vivid portrayal; on the other hand, until our own century the university as a place of learning and study is unmistakably on the decline. We are surprised, by the way, that Mr. Boase seems to have overlooked the singular picture drawn by Dean Prideaux of its degraded state in his time. On the other hand, our author reminds us that, whatever may be thought of the condition of things in Oxford in the last century, from 1720 onwards there were already signs of revival, though it was not until some generations had passed that it affected the university as a whole:—

"The remaining soundness in the body reacted against the corruption, and gradually overcame it. The great religious revival took two directions, one intellectual, the other emotional. The deistic controversy was fought and won by a series of remarkable men, such as Bishop Butler, who was at Oriel in 1714. In 1720 John Wesley was at Christ Church, and was thence elected to a fellowship at Lincoln. About 1730 he and his brother Charles founded the religious brotherhood soon known as Methodists."

In this way Mr. Boase succeeds in a few words in giving a hint and suggestion which most writers would expand into pages.

Recent changes, hastened by the use of coaches and then of railways, had their

effect on Oxford as on other places, and Mr. Boase does not disdain the humbler office of a local chronicler. To those who know and love the city nothing in this recital of small things will come amiss, and least of all the fervid sentences, well becoming an old and loyal dweller in Oxford, which conclude the book. The two maps, we should add, are excellent; and except a couple of slips in the index we have not noticed a single misprint.

The Law of Torts: a Treatise on the Principles of Obligations arising from Civil Wrongs in the Common Law. By Frederick Pollock. (Stevens & Sons.)

It is difficult to understand why another treatise on torts should have been brought out when about eight existed already, more especially when it is considered that the well-known work of Addison contains a far wider and deeper exposition of the subject than the work before us can at all lay claim to present. But it has been laid down by high judicial authority that all the Queen's subjects may manufacture and sell pickles, even if their fathers sold pickles before them; and it is equally good law, no doubt, that all true Britons may write and sell books on torts, even if the market should chance to be a little overstocked already. The pages of Addison's famous text-book (we have access to the fifth edition; a sixth is announced, and perhaps already published) are considerably larger than those of Prof. Pollock's work, while as to number there are 730 of the former as against 466 of the latter. Addison's "Table of Cases" extends to thirty-seven pages, while Prof. Pollock's is limited to ten; and, as regards the constituent portions of the respective works, if we take "Nuisance" as a typical instance, we find forty-nine pages on that subject in the old work and only twenty-eight in the new. It is true that contracted space does not conclusively prove a limited amount of matter, but it is *prima facie* evidence, corroborated by the paucity of cited decisions—a clear indication of shortcomings which are not rare or difficult to point out. *Bell v. Twentyman* (1 Q.B. 774) would show, if it were cited, that if a nuisance be done away with, and its effects have ceased before action brought, there may be damages for past injury, though the cause of action is extinguished; *Thorpe v. Brumfitt* (L.R. 8 Ch. 650), that, if several persons cause a nuisance, it is no defence to say that the amount of injury caused by one would be no ground of complaint, or that the plaintiff cannot show what was the amount caused by each; *Bennett v. Bennett* (6 C. & P. 588), that it is no mitigation, when slander has been uttered, to say that the defendant heard it from a named person; *Fann v. Malcolmson* (1 H. of L. Ca. 637) and *Cook v. Batchellor* (3 B. & P. 150), that partners in trade who are slandered as to their trade may bring a joint action. Here are merely a few instances, taken at random, out of a vast number of cases unnoticed by Prof. Pollock though given in Addison; and, as far as we can ascertain, the important practical lessons embodied in them are nowhere recorded in the work before us. The probable amount of such sins of omission, as suggested by the

contrasted dimensions of the tables of cases, is something fearful to contemplate. It is easy to say that Prof. Pollock's book is comparatively a small one; but its limited size cannot excuse a want of completeness which is in no way indicated by its title. A work intitled 'The Law of Torts,' without any sort of qualification, should contain the whole principles of the law of torts, no matter how compressed as to diction; the bridge that is to carry us over the yawning gulf of litigation must not have fatal gaps in its pathway, like the perilous structure in the 'Vision of Mirza.'

As a compensation, perhaps, for the omission of doctrines established by competent authority, the pages before us are sprinkled pretty liberally with statements given without any authority at all, and therefore unserviceable even when they are correct. Among statements so given are the following, expressed in our own language for the sake of brevity: that a man is not liable for damage if a landlisp carries off his land, his house, and himself, and deposits the whole on his neighbour's field; that a monomaniac is liable to damages if he writes libellous postcards to all who refuse to supply him with funds to recover the English crown; that the owner or master of a ship at its moorings may complain of a nuisance created on shore; that in nuisance the defendant may sometimes justify by prescription, or the plaintiff be barred by acquiescence; that a man who lets loose a dangerous animal in an inhabited place is liable for all the mischief it may do; that a person driven out of his house by the sawing of stone in a new building will not be deprived of his remedy because the building is being erected by a college for purposes of education; that a man may open lights overlooking his neighbour's land; that "abatement" is now, practically, not in use except as to rights of common, rights of way, and sometimes rights of water. Akin to the vice of irresponsible statement is that of giving insufficient authority; and from this, again, Prof. Pollock is not free, for he relies more than once on individual contemporary writers, and cites American decisions which "seem to be good law," though he well knows that they are not binding on the English courts.

As regards the general treatment of the subject, we find at the outset a want of logical method and clear definition. The first chapter is devoted in the main to an inconclusive discussion of the question, What is a tort? From time to time the author seems to bring us very near to daylight (e.g., at p. 4), but the "summary" at pp. 18, 19 throws us back into blacker darkness than we were in at the beginning. As Prof. Pollock himself says, it is "indication rather than definition"; it may be added that it is an enumeration of the various ways in which a tort may come into being rather than an explanation of what a tort actually is. It would be an advantage if all the rambling speculation of this chapter were expunged, and the simple words "A civil wrong independent of contract" were substituted from Mozley and Whiteley's 'Concise Law Dictionary.' The author is not more happy in his endeavours to identify torts with matters dealt with "under the title of obligations *ex*

delicto and *quasi ex delicto*" in Roman law. It is true that his statement on the subject is modified by the word "approximately"; but even with that qualification it is unwarranted, for it is of the essence of "tort" as a technical term of English law that it is not actual crime, and several undoubted crimes are included in *obligationes ex delicto*. There is no reason, it is submitted, why any branch of law which has grown up on our own soil should be, or should be expected to be, co-extensive with some particular branch of Roman law, and the attempt to show a coincidence may often, as in the present instance, lead to misconception as to the comprehensiveness of one or the other. Apart from this, the habit of mixing up one system with another is prolific of confused ideas and misleading expressions. After stating that there were formerly cases (in England, be it understood) in which there was "an option to sue for breach of contract or for a tort," Prof. Pollock adds that in such cases an infant could not be made liable for what was, in truth, a breach of contract by "framing the action *ex delicto*"—a sentence which conveys no clear meaning to a reader who is not, like the professor himself, breathing a mixed atmosphere of Roman and English law. We take it (judging partly from the cases referred to and partly from other passages in the work) to mean that, although an infant was liable to an action of tort *vi et contra pacem*, such as trespass, he was not liable to an action for torts which "sound in deceit," because the admission of such a liability as last mentioned would have been a practical evasion of his exemption, *quâ* infant, from liability to be sued on a contract. In this sense the proposition is, no doubt, quite sound; but it is impossible to say that such a meaning is clearly conveyed by the words as they stand. In the discussion of the maxim *actio personalis moritur cum personâ*, the mention of certain rules of Roman law—or rather the manner in which they are mentioned—might lead the reader to suppose that the maxim was quite as much Roman as English; as a matter of fact, *actio personalis* as a technical expression was scarcely known to Roman law, but corresponded, when used at all, with *actio in personam*, which was plainly defined as the right of suing in respect of contract or *maleficium*. It is by no means so clear what was the exact meaning of *actio personalis* as used by our own old writers. The conjecture recorded by Prof. Pollock in a note, that there was really no such thing, and that *personalis* was a mistake for *penalis*, is plausible, but the matter is of little consequence. The expression *actio penalis*, common enough in Roman law, may very possibly have been used by Coke as a fair equivalent for "action of tort"; but to prove that it was or was not so used would add very little to our stock of useful knowledge. Prof. Pollock's statement that the inheritance of a man who had increased his profit by *dolus* was bound to restore the profit so gained has no bearing on English law, and is not borne out by the passage cited in support of it, though it is probable that it is good Roman law, and that authority might be found for it in the Digest.

We are at issue with Prof. Pollock, as the reader cannot fail to gather from the above remarks, principally because he does not

confine himself strictly to his proposed subject, and because he has neither exhausted that subject nor given notice that he does not intend to exhaust it. As far as it goes his work seems to show a careful study of statutes and cases, and may, no doubt, be useful to students if they confine themselves to its real subject-matter. "Insensible," as signifying inapplicable or unmeaning, and "good advisement," whatever it may signify, are strange expressions; but such eccentricities are rare. The name "Swan" is printed by mistake for *Guille* at p. 34, l. 5; and "3 P. & D. 466" for 3 A. & E. 466 at p. 58, note (k).

Hecheater Lectures on Greeko [sic] Slavonic Literature and its Relation to the Folk-lore of Europe during the Middle Ages. By M. Gaster, Ph.D. (Trübner & Co.)

THE investigation into the origin of myths is now entering upon a new stage. The first exponents of the young science of comparative religion relied upon the theory of language misunderstood, and the whole Greek mythology was derived from Sanskrit words whose primary meaning had become obscured by time. Upon the simple and spiritual beliefs of the Aryan shepherds and milkmaids had succeeded a gross anthropomorphism, which formed the nucleus of hundreds of childish stories. Such was the view which, propounded with much learning and ingenuity, appeared at one time to reign without a rival. In the last few years, however, some deadly blows have been aimed at this fanciful fabric, so gratifying to human vanity. The linguistic side has been attacked by many scholars, among whom it will be sufficient to mention here Bergaigne, and the whole matter has been put upon a different basis by the wide inductions established by Dr. Tylor. The method of the latter may be styled the comparative historical as opposed to the linguistic. He has had an able follower and exponent in Mr. A. Lang. The fact is the views of those who seek to interpret the history of religions by means of language, and especially Sanskrit, are based upon too narrow an induction—they only consider a limited portion of the human race, and only investigate that portion when found in a civilized state.

The work of Dr. Gaster now before us propounds an hypothesis which will be new to most of our readers, that the folk-lore of Europe is comparatively modern, and has been drawn from late Oriental, especially Talmudic traditions, filtered through Palæo-Slavonic and Bulgarian sources and the teaching of the Paulicians or Bogomils. He looks upon the lives of the saints, with which early Slavonic literature abounds, as the origin of many popular fairy tales. He writes as follows:—

"For example, the life of St. Alexius, the man of God, St. Eustachius and so many others, who passed through so many marvellous adventures before they obtained the crown of happiness or martyrdom. I have named these lives because we can prove their influence on the popular literature. The heroic deeds of the one in knightly encounters with monsters and demons, or the struggles of another with the passions, have raised a loud response in the harp-strings of popular poetry, and their deeds resound in many a folk-song, in which now one,

now the other is particularly emphasized. Closer inquiry into the process of this transition from tales into ballads and from ballads into lyrics will lead to many an unexpected result. Thus we can show that the name of the person disappears gradually, and a personal song, if we may so term it, is changed into a general impersonal one. Thus, to give an example, there is in the life of St. Josaphat, which I shall have to deal with later on, a song describing how he flees into the desert to his teacher, and gives up riches, happiness, and splendour. Now we can actually show how this song in this form changed gradually in Bulgaria, Roumania, and Russia into a 'Song of the Stranger,' i.e., of a man who bemoans all that he has left behind in his home. Many more examples might be given of this kind in popular literature showing this transition: the subject remains, but the personal accessories disappear."

To this the advocate of the theory of Dr. Tylor would reply that the life of the saint with its accessories was itself nothing but a folk-tale, which in the course of its circulation had got a new local habitation and a name, just as is the case with those legends in Herodotus and elsewhere which are styled ethical, i.e., the event perhaps happened somewhere and at some period, but many countries and many centuries claim it. The value of the legend consists in its illustrating popular beliefs in a general way.

That a large number of the legends contained in the Talmud form a portion of the so-called Bogomilic literature has been already stated by Prof. J. Derenbourg. But the view has been fully worked out and illustrated by Dr. Gaster. The collection published by Bezsonov, entitled 'Kalieki Perekhozhie' ('Wandering Beggars'), is full of legends of this kind, and there are also some good specimens in Buslaev's 'Historical Sketches of Russian Popular Literature and Art.' But this is, as it were, only a metempsychosis of the legend: it is probably a folk-tale belonging to men of the earliest period, and has been embodied in the Talmud only afterwards to find another passage to the Paulician storehouse. Dr. Gaster is able to introduce many interesting parallels owing to his knowledge of rabbinical literature and the little-known folk-lore of the Rouman people, on which he has already published a book. But M. V. Stasov some time ago essayed to prove the Oriental origin of many of the Russian folk-tales and *bilini*, which he thinks were introduced at no remote period. A few years back M. Pipin contributed some interesting papers to the *Viestnik Yevropt*, in which he showed considerable scepticism with regard to the native growth of many of the Russian legendary poems.

Some good appendices are added to this interesting book, and in the last Dr. Gaster attempts a solution of the vexata questio of the origin of the Glagolitic alphabet. Concerning this mysterious character, at present only used in the religious books of the Dalmatian Slavs, and now fast dying out, the one fact clearly ascertained up to the present time is that it is certainly older than the Cyrillic. Not only is the language found in Glagolitic manuscripts more antique, as Kopitar, Miklosich, and others have shown, but whenever a Slavonic palimpsest is discovered it is sure to show a Glagolitic text written over with Cyrillic, never the reverse. It is curious that in some instances,

as in the 'Texte du Sacre,' we find Glagolitic and Cyrillic together. Wild theories have been held about this mystic alphabet, the oldest view, favoured by the Roman Church, being that it was actually invented by St. Jerome. Others have seen in the characters traces of Slavonic runes. Prof. Geitler, of Agram, recently deceased, connected it with an old Albanian alphabet. Prof. Leskien seems to have started the idea that it was borrowed from cursive Greek, and he has reaffirmed his opinion in the new edition of his 'Handbuch der Altbulgarischen Sprache' (1886). This view has been supported with much learning by Canon Isaac Taylor in an article in the *Archiv für Slavische Philologie*, vol. v. p. 191. It seems, however, *prima facie* strange that a cursive alphabet should be earlier than an uncial. It is also difficult to see all the points of resemblance upon which Canon Taylor insists in his tables, nor can we easily believe, as Dr. Gaster very sensibly remarks, that a single Glagolitic character would be developed out of a combination of several Greek letters. The origin of the Glagolitic characters *sha*, *shta*, *tsi*, and *teher* is very difficult to follow from Canon Taylor's explanation, and it is just these sounds, for which the Greeks had no special letters, which must have required additional characters. The views of Canon Taylor have not been accepted by Prof. Miklosich, to judge by the remarks contained in his 'Geschichte der Lautbezeichnung im Bulgarischen' (Vienna, 1883); and K. Strekelj, a writer in the *Ljubljanski Zvon* (*The Bell of Ljubljana*), thinks that Canon Taylor has perhaps traced one or two letters, but many of his supposed identifications are fanciful. Dr. Gaster finds analogies with the Armenian and Georgian alphabets. With these he thinks that Cyril became acquainted when living among the Khazars. The reader is assisted in forming an opinion by two pages of alphabets, and many of the letters are shown to have very striking affinities, especially those characteristic ones generally transliterated as *u* and *i*.

Dr. Gaster considers that the grammatical peculiarities which the Albanian, Rouman, modern Greek, and Bulgarian languages have in common must have been caused by the influence of the Ugro-Bulgarian upon the other three. This seems more probable than that the changes are due to Thracian, as is generally said—a language about which very little is or ever can be known. The only point which modern Greek has in common with these languages is the use of the subjunctive mood for the infinitive. We must remember, however, that we find traces of this already in the Greek Testament, e.g., ἡγαλλιάσατο ἵνα ἴδῃ, "he rejoiced to see," and also in later Attic. With this we may compare the use in early mediæval Latin of *dixit ei quod*, "he told him that," &c. It is a common development of language. In Bulgarian, Albanian, and Rouman we get the post position of the article. Dr. Gaster speaks of the two hundred years during which the Ugro-Bulgarian language was spoken in the Balkan; he might have added to the few facts known about this people the extracts from old Bulgarian laws cited by Suidas and commented on at some length by Bogisic.

There is also an interesting mention by Paul the Deacon of the settlement of some of these Bulgarians in Southern Italy. No specimens, however, of their language have reached us, except the proper names Asparukh, Kubrat, and others, which have never been interpreted. The guess of Lord Strangford that the Neo-Bulgarian word *khubav*, beautiful, was a survival from the Ugro-Bulgarian language was not a happy conjecture. Miklosich, in his work on Oriental words in South Slavonic languages, derives it from Persian.

The book of Dr. Gaster is replete with curious information; it is the production of a thorough scholar, and throws some valuable side-lights upon the origin of European myths and folk-lore. It assists in explaining the genesis of many of these; but how far it really solves the origin of myths generally is not so easily settled. We hail with pleasure our author's promise of publishing an English translation of the Slavonic apocryphal books ('*Otrechenniya Knigi*'), which will be a valuable contribution to the study of popular traditions.

Ireland in the Days of Dean Swift. (*Irish Tracts*, 1720-1736.) By J. Bowles Daly, LL.D. (Chapman & Hall.)

It is curious that among the countless books that the state of Ireland has called forth the tracts of Dean Swift have never until now been republished apart from his collected works. Yet his writings on Ireland have much more than a merely literary interest. The major part of his description is as true to Ireland of our day as of his, and a perusal of the '*Irish Tracts*' is an excellent short cut to a right understanding of the causes of Irish poverty and disaffection. Nevertheless, Swift's tracts, whatever their merit, cannot be justly said to afford a complete picture of Ireland in the early part of the eighteenth century. A certain side of Irish life they portray with extraordinary vividness, but many of the leading characteristics of Ireland of his day are utterly ignored or very lightly touched. Strangely enough the features on which he dwells are mainly the permanent ones, those which he passes over the temporary conditions; and thus while absenteeism, rack-renting, misgovernment, commercial depression, universal poverty, are insisted on with a persistency worthy of Mr. Parnell's followers, the oppression of the Catholics, the proselytizing zeal of the Protestants, the excessive tithe, the universal smuggling trade, and the enlistment of Irish soldiers in foreign service are only hinted at. Yet these were among the distinctive characteristics of Ireland in the days of Dean Swift, and their elimination detracts greatly from the value of his tracts considered as a contemporary picture of Irish life. But Swift had no desire to produce a picture of Ireland; his writings were aimed at the wrongs under which his country laboured, and the abuses which he attacked are (with the exception of Wood's halfpence) precisely those which disaffected Irishmen attack to this day. Herein lies the great political interest of his essays, always excepting the Drapier's letters, which must remain for all time as the model of brilliant, but dishonest pleading in an honest cause.

It is difficult to imagine the person who

should be incapable of reading Swift's '*Irish Tracts*.' They were written for the masses, make little claim upon the culture of the reader, and are extremely comprehensible both to heart and head; yet Dr. Bowles Daly evidently considers them an unappetizing mental diet, towards which an unwilling public must be allured by such devices as an inaccurate title and the judicious suppression of the unattractive name of Swift as author on the title-page. For the fact is that '*Ireland in the Days of Dean Swift*' is little more than a reprint of Swift's tracts on Ireland, reduced by about one-third; and Dr. Daly's share in the work consists of an introduction of two dozen pages, a few prefatory remarks, and the excisions, which need not have been made. Things being so, the dedication of the book to the Right Hon. John Morley is at first sight a little puzzling. One searches the memory in vain for some Georgian Chief Secretary of that name, till a sentence of the introduction throws a side-light on this posthumous dedication. Much is possible in a country wherein "the evil of absenteeism was of ancient date, the efforts to eradicate it still older."

As becomes an Irish man of letters, Dr. Daly is an enthusiastic admirer of Swift; but it is regrettable that he should think his appreciation peculiar. In his introduction he deplores that these tracts are but little studied by the Irish nation and their representatives; but he should bear in mind that the Irish of to-day are not a reading people, that to buy books one must have money, and that Swift's works exist in no very cheap edition; while as to the representatives we are inclined to question this assertion; for, judging from the published speeches of the Nationalist representatives, one would surmise that an ignorance of the writings of the father of Irish agitation is not among the sins with which they can be justly charged.

This idea that Swift's writings are old-fashioned and out of date has prompted Dr. Daly to deprive his work of all value as a book of reference and of much of its interest by incomprehensible omissions and excisions. Some tracts of great interest—as, for example, the '*Reply to the Craftsman*'—are entirely left out, and others are snipped and mutilated, being in some cases reduced to little more than half their length. For instance, the fourth Drapier's letter is cut short full one-third before its end, and the very heart has been torn out of the '*Short View of the State of Ireland*.' In fact, no one tract is reprinted as it stood. In some cases a few lines, which Dr. Daly has judged unimportant, are dropped out, in others passages of nine or ten pages are omitted; yet in no instance are the essays the better for the doctoring, and in only one tract—the '*Modest Proposal*'—can the excisions be defended on the score of niceness. But to a very nice person the whole of the '*Modest Proposal*' is somewhat revolting; and as the march of civilization has revealed far more effectual measures for decreasing the population of Ireland, the irony of this essay has lost its point. Famine, eviction, and emigration have produced results compared with which Swift's proposal is modest in all seriousness; but its literary merit and the hold its bitter grimness

takes on the imagination are by no means increased by the excision of the coarser passages. The truth is that Swift's tracts are too close knit and the parts too interdependent for any passage to be withdrawn without injury to the whole. It may be hoped that the event will prove to Dr. Daly the existence of a public for Swift's writings, and that in future editions he will print the tracts *in extenso*, with their missing fellows added, and will revert to the original paragraphs. It would also be an advantage to arrange them in the order of their production or publication.

La Réforme Monétaire en Égypte.—Les Monnaies d'Égypte: Résumé Historique. Par J. Rabino. (Cairo, Imprimerie Nationale.)

SOME five years ago the Egyptian Government appointed a commission to investigate the defects of the existing currency, and to formulate a new system. The work of the commission, after some interruption caused by political and military disturbance, has now been accomplished; a bulky report on '*La Réforme Monétaire en Égypte*' has been issued, and a new currency has been inaugurated. With the technical details of this valuable report we shall not concern ourselves; but the '*Résumé Historique*' appended to it, and also issued separately, contains matter of more literary interest than questions of weight and alloy, and will repay the study of those who are attracted by the economical problems of mediæval Egypt. The author of this *résumé* is M. Joseph Rabino, of the Crédit Lyonnais establishment at Alexandria. He does not make any claim to originality, but admits that the data upon which his essay is founded are derived from M. Sauvage's treatises, M. Bernard's volume in the '*Description de l'Égypte*,' the '*Catalogue of Oriental Coins in the British Museum*,' and such records as happen to exist at the Egyptian Mint. It is evident, indeed, that he is not an Arabic scholar, and that his statements are at second hand. Nevertheless, he might have claimed the merit of adopting a new attitude in studying the facts which others have collected, and which he has arranged in a convenient and systematic form. Those others were numismatists, scholars, and antiquaries—M. Rabino is a financier. The result is that we have here, for the first time, a view of the coinage of Egypt taken from the banker's standpoint, and not from the archaeologist's; and numismatists will be glad to hear what the banker has to say upon the various problems that have long perplexed their unbusinesslike minds.

The earliest Mohammedan coinage of Egypt was, of course, merely a branch of the general money borrowed or minted by the Khalifs; whatever points of difference there were between the issues of the Fostat and the Damascus or Baghdad mints, the value of the two was almost identical. It was not till A.D. 868 that Ibn-Tulūn inaugurated a practically independent coinage in Egypt, and even then his coins were modelled upon the Khalifate standard, though their *titre* was even purer. From his time onwards for three centuries we find a predominant gold coinage. The Tulūnis, Ikshidīs, and Fātimīs seem to have been content to preserve an excellent

gold currency, of good weight and purity, and to leave the silver and copper to take care of themselves. The chief cabinets of coins in Europe contain very few silver pieces of this period (868-1171), probably because they were of such base and worn metal as not to be worth keeping. History, however, informs us that in 1007 silver was overcoined to such an extent that the dirhem passed at 34 to the gold dinār instead of the usual relation of 15 to 1. Prices rose, and the Government was forced to confront the difficulty. Those were the days of heroic remedies. Without scruple the Khalif Hakim demonetized the old dirhems, forbade any further dealings in them, ordered them to be collected and brought to the mint in three days, and purchased them at the rate of four for the new dirhem, which was now circulated at 18 to the dinār. We do not read how this measure succeeded, but forty years later the relation of the two coins had been but slightly modified (16½ to 1), so we may conclude that the cheapness of silver had been checked. Copper, which was used only as token money under the Khalifate, played so far but a small part in the monetary system of Egypt.

With the invasion of Saladin a new phase begins in Egyptian currency. The standard is no longer of gold, but goods and taxes are reckoned in silver dirhems—not the old Fātimī dirhems, but Saladin's new issue, in which copper was alloyed to the extent of one-half the weight. The silver currency of Saladin and his successors was, however, minted with considerable accuracy, and the weight was carefully maintained. The gold, which was also largely coined, was more irregular in weight, and broad copper pieces began to be introduced in great numbers, which must have affected the silver currency, though we find no mention of them in M. Rabino's pages. A disastrous innovation was authorized by Saladin's nephew, El-Kāmil, who cut the copper coins into four quarters, and let the fragments circulate at a fixed tariff, with the inevitable result of great abuses. The entire fels, or copper piece, was ordered to be received at 48 to the dirhem, but soon afterwards this proportion was changed to 24, whereby holders of silver lost 50 per cent. on small transactions. Under the Mamluk Sultans things went from bad to worse. They coined, indeed, some splendid double gold pieces, but their silver contained a third part of copper, and the relation between gold and silver was perpetually changing. We find the proportion varying from 13 to 20, 25, 30, and even 33 dirhems to the dinār. Meanwhile an enterprising vizir had discovered that a handsome profit might be made by importing copper from Marseilles, coining it at Alexandria, and issuing the pieces at a nominal price far above their intrinsic value. Copper, of course, began to drive out silver, which was now chiefly melted down by jewellers or exported abroad. Private people (Europeans, of course), observing the profit derivable from the appreciation of copper, began surreptitiously to coin it on their own account. The effects of this state of things were soon felt. A man whose income was 20,000 dirhems of silver now received 100,000 dirhems of copper; but the former were worth 1,000

mithkāl of gold and the latter only 660. Gold meanwhile, becoming more and more rare, rose in value, and prices became outrageous.

It was the Mamluk Sultan El-Muayyad (not "Maouyad," as M. Rabino writes the name) who set himself to diminish the monetary confusion of his period. He coined silver dirhems and half-dirhems, and suppressed for a while the issue of copper from the mint. But his influence, though much lauded by the historian Makrizi, was transitory, and his successors, while issuing a fairly uniform (though light) gold coinage, continued to permit most of the business of the country to be transacted with base silver and quantities of copper. Thus, during the independence of Egypt, the coinage—which under the Khalifs had been pure and good, the silver strictly adjusted to the gold, and the copper issued only as tokens in small amounts—had steadily deteriorated; a gold standard had been changed to a silver, and at last to a copper standard; and the relations between the various denominations were ever varying and uncertain. Probably the short reigns and pecuniary embarrassments of many of the rulers of Egypt contributed to this result; but we do not understand, nor does M. Rabino explain, how it was that the gold coinage continued throughout this period to maintain its weight and purity, unless it were because it was chiefly used for transactions with foreign merchants, and must, consequently, preserve some degree of fixity.

The coinage of Egypt under the Ottoman Turks consisted partly of gold *altouns* resembling those of Constantinople—known as Fundukli or "Venetian," because the sequins of Venice were the Turks' original models of a gold currency—and partly of Cairo sequins, which after the year of the Hijra 1143 (not 1171) entirely differed from others in weight; but the practical currency was of little silver paras, called *maydi*, after the reforming Sultan Muayyad, which, despite their name, were of base metal, and continued perpetually to depreciate in weight and *titre*, till they became as thin as paper. The rebel 'Alī Bey tried in 1769 to introduce the ghurūsh, or Turkish piastre (a large coin like the Dutch dollar introduced by Suleyman II., not I. as M. Rabino has it), but unsuccessfully, and Napoleon made a similarly vain attempt. The *maydi* was much too small a denomination to answer all the purposes of trade, and foreign money began to acquire an alarming preponderance in the country. At last, in 1834, Mohammed 'Alī undertook the reform of the currency, and introduced the system which has ever since obtained. It was, however, gradually suffered to deteriorate; the standards and weights became variable; the smaller pieces were both rare and defective, and frequently were refused by the tradespeople; foreign money again glutted the market; and the time had come for a reform.

This reform has now been inaugurated, with the help of Sir Edgar Vincent and the advice of various bankers and the chief mint-masters of Europe. It is by no means a radical change. The standard gold piece is not assimilated to any of the gold standards of Europe, but is fixed at a weight of 8.500 grammes (instead of the

English 7.988, or the German 7.964), with a purity of .875 instead of .900. The commission were afraid of any sudden and vital change, and have been content to take the mean of existing Egyptian pounds. The pound, as before, will be worth 100 piastres, and gold pieces of 50, 20, 10, and 5 piastres will be issued, but only in small quantities, as they are not expected to come much into circulation. The old 25 piastre, or ¼ pound, is suppressed. In silver the leading denomination is the talari, or dollar, of 20 piastres, a piece of well-approved use, which is fixed at 28 grammes, with a purity of .8333, and its subdivisions are to consist of pieces of 10, 5, 2, 1, ½, and ¼ piastres. The piastre, instead of being divided into 40 paras as heretofore, will have as *divisionnaires* three nominal pieces in nickel, passing for ⅓, ⅔, and ⅞ of the piastre; and there will further be two bronze tokens, forming the half and the quarter of the "ushr-el-ghirsh," or tenth of the piastre. This "tenth of piastre" is an entirely new denomination; but it falls in well with the decimal character of the rest of the coinage, and ought to prove a wise and useful substitute for the old and inconvenient multiples of the para.

The full and detailed tables with which both the report and the *résumé* abound add considerably to their value. M. Rabino has compiled his part well, and our only regret is, when all has been said, that the professional insight and experience of the banker have not, after all, succeeded in clearing up the mysteries of the coinage of mediæval Egypt. He recites the facts clearly, but he does not advance our knowledge beyond what numismatists had already ascertained. It was, perhaps, an over-sanguine hope that any one should succeed in unravelling the tangled threads of Mohammedan monetary history. Mamluk Sultans and their mint-masters were quite prepared to defy every principle of political economy, even if the dismal science had been discovered in their time. Happily they were unconscious of their sin.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Precautions. By Lady Margaret Majendie. 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

The Ring of Gyges. By C. W. Lisle. (Same publishers.)

His Own Enemy. By J. Bloundelle-Burton. 2 vols. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

Only a Curate. By E. G. Egomet. (Fisher Unwin.)

Storm-Beaten and Weary. By Evelyn Burne. (Griffith, Farran & Co.)

The Troubles of an Heiress. By Cecil Lucas. (White & Co.)

LADY MARGARET MAJENDIE has improved considerably in her method of telling a story, and she has never written a better novel than 'Precautions.' The style, indeed, is much the same as ever. Good, old-fashioned English words are turned upon their backs, as a Hottentot would say, on every other page, and a like fate too often befalls the commonplace subject of a lively description. There is a cricket match, for instance, in the first volume; somebody makes a grand hit, and the fielder rolls over the ball. Then "George grew perfectly purple, and when the fielder had righted himself at last, found that he had

made a good score and was the hero of the day." There is any quantity of this kind of thing, but it does not destroy the absolute pleasantness of the story. When the reader comes to know and understand the characters he is quite at home with them; they are all interesting, and some of them are very winning indeed. The best part of 'Precautions' is the third volume, which deals with an outbreak of cholera in Italy. Here Lady Margaret is at her best; the manner of the narrative gains strength from its subject, and there are several chapters of very powerful and pathetic work. The painting of these scenes was a happy inspiration, and they are skilfully managed so as to subserve the purpose of the story. No one could grudge the time spent on making the acquaintance of sweet Kitty Bellingham.

In 'The Ring of Gyges' Mr. Lisle has introduced a strong element of the supernatural and mystical into every-day life. If the method be well handled the result is often thrilling enough; but in the hands of Mr. Lisle it does not show all its advantages. The dominant idea of his story is as fantastic and as physically impossible as that of 'The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde,' but it is lacking in what one may call the mental and moral suggestion of awful possibilities of Mr. Stevenson's tale; and thus Mr. Lisle has not much in common with Mr. Stevenson. There is a tameness about the greater part of the book, and it somehow fails to create the necessary illusion. With or without his ring, too, this autobiographical hero is rather more invisible and intangible than he should be. Still there are strong situations, and there are flashes of weirdness now and again, especially towards the sombre close, in which the fortunes of the principal characters are mysteriously shrouded.

Though heavy and lengthy, 'His Own Enemy' is not devoid of a kind of interest, which, however, is always below boiling-point. The hero (*en route* for the dogs) becomes, as he goes on, more of a human being than at first sight seemed possible, and the fatal interest he manages to inspire in the opposite sex is, perhaps, not so entirely preposterous as is the case with most of his kind. Far too much fuss is made over his secret marriage and his lukewarm engagements, especially by the girl who is designed to "take the cake" for noble womanhood, and takes it only for the power of boring. But for this and a world of turfiness misplaced and misapplied, the story of his adventures would have been shorter and no worse.

Mr. Egomet, who is at once the author and hero of 'Only a Curate,' having a deep grudge against the English Church, has vented his dissatisfaction in a biographical sketch of the experiences of a colonial cleric who has returned, after thirty years' missionary work in the backwoods, to seek employment in his mother country. Mr. Egomet is a paragon of virtue and learning, whose early mathematical training enables him to prepare a sermon in a few minutes, and who boasts a familiarity with at least half a dozen languages, dead and living. These polyglot attainments, however, do not save him from the perpetration of all manner of vulgarisms, barbarisms, and solecisms in his native tongue. Assuming,

as we are driven to do by the evidence of the title-page, the identity of author and hero, it is easy to understand that a man who talks of "a calve's head," and of a "tray furnished with all the appendages for the refreshing meal," would meet with scant mercy from a bishop's examining chaplain. It is just the same when he deviates from the vernacular. A lady plays a selection from 'Tannerhäuser' (*sic*), and Mr. Egomet massacres the French and Latin tongues with equal facility. Misquotations from Shakspeare and an allusion to the Classical Tripos at Oxford are mere trifles in the general havoc which invariably ensues whenever the author parades his cultivation. If we are to believe his story the occupants of the higher grades in the English Church are in the main epicures or dilettantes, vulgar and overbearing in manner, and of indifferent private character. Many of the incidents recorded are grossly improbable, while the self-satisfaction which underlies the portraiture of the hero—boastful and rude though he is on occasion—is enough in itself to prejudice the most impartial reader. In fine, Mr. Egomet's indictment might have carried some weight did not his pages bear at every turn the evidences of imperfect education and strong animosity.

'Storm-Beaten and Weary' is probably the work of a "youthful pen," judging from its low-spirited tone and its firm belief in the hollowness of the affections and the uncertainty of life. Everybody loves, or at least marries, the wrong person; the heroine—she tells her own forlorn tale—is soon put under the sods—cold comfort, perhaps, yet no doubt a relief to one so exhausted and crushed, and certainly a relief to the reader. The French (which is poor Marie's native tongue) might easily be better, and, for the matter of that, so might the English; but the author is a law to herself in such trifles and in others besides. Her wild and wilful use of the apostrophe of possession where none should be shows so much vigour and strength of purpose as to suggest a deliberate system that might be usefully applied in some other direction.

'The Troubles of an Heiress' is what might well be called, in the language of those most likely to appreciate it, a pretty little finicking story, all about nothing. Of course it is all about an heiress and her troubles, and that is just the reason why it is all about nothing. The heroine is an heiress, and she is troubled by a lot of pertinacious friends; and there is a Mr. Right and a Mr. Wrong; and Mr. Wrong is one of the troubles, but he is squared, so to speak, by a little of the heritage, whilst Mr. Right cares nothing for money, and is therefore satisfied with the remnant of twenty-odd thousand pounds. There is really nothing else that clings to the memory after reading the story through, except a little more or less lively gossip and character-sketching.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

A LECTURING tour of three or four months has provided Max O'Rell with material for an amusing sketch of Scottish life and character, in which he has been assisted by Dean Ramsay's book on the same subject. But although *L'Ami Mac Donald* (Paris, Calmann Lévy) contains a good many well-known stories, the author has

generally retold them with excellent appreciation, and he has related his own experiences with that bright good humour which has helped to make his popularity. Sometimes he makes mistakes, perhaps willingly, as when he quotes a verse from a hymn in general use as something peculiarly characteristic that struck him at Glasgow. When he goes on Dean Ramsay's ground without his guidance the author is not quite safe. His list of Scottish words derived from French, with their English equivalents, among which appears "hatched meat" as the English of "haggis," is not very happy; but, as Max O'Rell says, in a book of anecdotic reminiscences it would be out of place to go into philological details. The chapter on Edinburgh is too much like book-making.

ALTHOUGH it may be regretted that able novelists should employ in writing shilling dreadfuls time which might be spent in the composition of good novels, of which so few appear nowadays, yet, if shilling dreadfuls must be supplied, the reader of them is to be congratulated on being able to command the services of so able a novelist as Mr. F. W. Robinson. His 99, *Dark Street* (Maxwell) has the merit of a capital title, and though it does not strike the note of dreadfulness quite briskly enough, it improves as it goes along, and works up to a very pretty bit of mystery. Mr. Robinson has hardly tried to do his best, for one can readily suppose that he could have succeeded in working some good study of character even into a shilling dreadful, though that would, perhaps, be against the rules of the game. In following the cheery vivacity of style which precedent required he has gone too far in making the narrator speak of "my dead mother and my live housekeeper." Another evidence of want of care is a discrepancy between p. 11, where the landlady says she does not know Mr. Nash, and p. 22, where she says, "He is a funny one, and no mistake."

ENCOURAGED by the success of her 'First School Poetry Book,' Miss Woods has compiled *A Second School Poetry Book* (Macmillan & Co.), as to which, in the main, the praise given to the former work applies. Lest any readers should regret the absence of some favourite pieces, the preface states that these are reserved for another volume. The present compilation is intended for girls from eleven to fourteen or fifteen, and the very sensible lines laid down in the preface are well adhered to. Some originality is shown in the selection, a number of poems by living writers being included which are not to be found in other anthologies. Possibly the two pieces from Walt Whitman will suggest difficulties both to pupils and teachers.

MR. WALTER J. TYRWHITT has not been happy in selecting for his book the title of *The New Chum in the Queensland Bush* (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.). The eagerness of "New Chums" to rush into print, and the readiness of readers to purchase the works of authors who, on their own showing, can know little of their subject, are remarkable. Mr. Tyrwhitt, however, chose this unattractive title unnecessarily, as he really was for three years in Queensland. During that time he learned a good deal, and the result is an unpretending book which contains some graphic sketches. It does not present bush life in an inviting light, and holds out little encouragement except to capitalists with at least 10,000*l.* and to the working man, more especially to the artisan. Things are very different, he affirms, from what they were thirty years ago. The same might be said, and always is said, of every part of the world. One would think, however, that an island nearly as large as Europe, with a population about as numerous as that of Scotland, must still afford more scope for enterprise and industry than the overcrowded seats of an older civilisation. The chapter in which the author shows most discrimination is that in which he portrays "Society and Different

Classes of People." In it he runs over the characteristics of squatters, legislators, police magistrates, storekeepers, stockmen, shepherds, and of the aborigines. Two others, describing "A Day's Work" and "Cattle Drovers," are good, and in these days, when cowboys are all the rage, will be read with interest. From his account and our own recollections of "buck jumping" we should say that the Australian horses are sometimes at least as vicious as the mustangs or bronchos of the wild West.

THE new volume of the *English Illustrated Magazine* (Macmillan & Co.) well maintains the high character of the publication. Mr. Farjeon's novel 'A Secret Inheritance' is the chief contribution in the way of fiction. Stories by Mr. Marion Crawford and the author of 'John Her-ring' also appear. The chapters about the north of Ireland, which the author of 'John Halifax' calls 'An Unknown Country,' are very pleasantly written, and Mr. F. Noel Paton's illustrations are generally good and sometimes first rate. Mr. Hugh Thomson's illustrations of eighteenth century people and manners have already attracted particular attention; but his drawings which accompany Mr. Rice-Jones's notes of life in St. Giles's, though less pleasing, are better done. Mr. E. A. Freeman writes on some places in the south of France, or "towns in Southern Gaul," as he prefers to call them. Mr. Oscar Browning contributes a paper about Cambridge, and Mr. John Taylor about Bristol. The volume contains poems by Mr. Swinburne, Mr. George Meredith, Sir Noel Paton, and Mr. Christie Murray. Two papers by the late Richard Jefferies will be read with interest.

WE have on our table *Young People's History of Ireland*, by G. M. Towle (Nelson),—*Principles of Civil Government*, by J. B. Kinnear (Smith & Elder),—*Ten Thousand Miles on a Bicycle*, by Karl Kron (New York, the Author),—*Rustic Walking Routes in the London Vicinity: North to East*, by W. R. Evans (Philip & Son),—*Eighteen Years on Sandringham Estate*, by "The Lady Farmer" (The Temple Company),—*Life of Queen Victoria*, edited by the Rev. Hugh R. Haweis (Routledge),—*True Royalty*, by J. W. Kirtan, LL.D. (Ward & Lock),—*By Northern Seas*, by Mary Bell (Church Extension Association),—*My Brother Yves*, by P. Loti, translated from the French by Mary P. Fletcher (Vizetelly),—*Thirteen Stories of the Far West*, by F. Heermans (Syracuse, N.Y., Bardeen),—*The Cruise of the Bunch of Roses*, by J. W. de Caux (Great Yarmouth, Huke),—*The Poems of Giacomo Leopardi*, translated by F. Townsend (Putnam),—*Ballads of Home and Life*, by E. S. Jackson (Gardner),—*Victorian Hymns: English Sacred Songs of Fifty Years* (Kegan Paul),—*The Book of Common Prayer Compared, 1549-1886*, edited by W. M. Myres (Griffith & Farran),—*A Help to Childhood's Faith*, by the Rev. H. M. Neville (S.P.C.K.),—*A Manual of Confirmation*, by Prebendary Moore (S.P.C.K.),—*St. Teresa's Pater Noster*, by J. Frassinetti, translated by W. Hutch, D.D. (Burns & Oates),—*L'Ancienne et la Nouvelle Philosophie*, by E. de Roberty (Paris, Alcan),—and *Encyklopaedie der Naturwissenschaften*, by Dr. W. Förster, Parts 42, 43, and 51 (Breslau, Trewendt). Among New Editions we have *Ethel's Book, or Tales of the Angels*, by F. W. Faber, D.D. (Burns & Oates),—*The Lazy Minstrel*, by J. Ashby-Sterry (Fisher Unwin),—*English as She is Taught*, by Mark Twain (Fisher Unwin),—and *The Apology of Al Kindy*, by Sir William Muir, K.C.S.I. (S.P.C.K.). Also the following Pamphlets: *Our Western Frontier of India*, by C. E. Biddulph (Waterlow Brothers),—*Capital Aided Colonisation*, by H. Seward (Harrison & Sons),—*Electricity and Life*, by E. C. Towne (Cambridge, U.S., Sever),—and *The Origin of Ascot Races*, by G. M. Hughes (Bell).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Rosenroth's (Knorr von) *Kabbala Denudata*, translated by S. L. Macgregor Mathers, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Spurrell's (G. J.) *Notes on the Hebrew Text of the Book of Genesis*, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.

Poetry.

Longfellow's (H. W.) *Works*, Nimmo's Excelsior Library, 5/
Longfellow's (H. W.) *Works*, Standard Library Edition, 5/ cl.
Scott's (Sir W.) *Poems*, 6 vols. 32mo. 5/ cl. in box.

Philosophy.

Johnstone's (L.) *Short Introduction to the Study of Logic*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

History and Biography.

Cranmer (T.), *Life, Times, and Writings of*, by C. H. Collette, 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Quin (J.), *Comedian, Life of*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 parchment.

Thackeray (W. M.), *A Collection of Letters of, 1847-1855*, 12/6

Geography and Travel.

Russell's (Rev. J.) *Three Years in Shetland*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

Philology.

Aristophanes, *The Knights*, with Introduction and Notes by W. W. Merry, 12mo. 3/ cl.

Taciti (Cornell) *Annalium, Liber I.*, edited, with Introduction, &c., by H. Furneaux, 12mo. 2/ cl. limp.

Virgil's *Bucolics*, edited by C. S. Jerram, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

Science.

Aitken (Sir W.) *On Animal Alkaloids*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

Aldis's (W. S.) *Text-Book of Algebra*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Casey's (J.) *Key to a Treatise on Elementary Trigonometry*, 12mo. 3/ cl.

Hasluck's (P. N.) *Pattern-Maker's Handbook*, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.

Suzor's (R.) *Hydrophobia, an Account of M. Pasteur's System*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

General Literature.

Alma Mater's *Mirror*, ed. by T. S. Baynes and L. Campbell, 5/
Besant (W.) and Rice's (J.) *With Harp and Crown*, Library Edition, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Corelli's (M.) *A Romance of Two Worlds*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Daudet's (A.) *Sappho, Parisian Manners*, illus. cr. 8vo. 3/6 swd.

Dodd's (A. B.) *The Republic of the Future, or Socialism a Reality*, 2/ bds.

Dormer's (T.) *The Mesmerist's Secret*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Hardy's (T.) *The Woodlanders*, cheap edition, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Hazlehurst's (G. S.) *The Invisible Telegraph of the Future*, 2/
John Bull's *Army from a French Point of View*, by Hector France, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.

Ladye Naney's (The), a Novel, by Rita, 12mo. 2/ bds.

Mallock's (W. H.) *The Old Order Changes*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Murray's (D. C.) *A Novelist's Note-Book*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Pen and Pencil Jottings, 2/6 cl.

Phillips's (F. C.) *The Dean and his Daughter*, 12mo. 2/ bds.

Self's (R. E.) *How Dante climbed the Mountain, Sunday Readings from the 'Purgatorio'*, 12mo. 2/ cl.

Sonnenschein's (W. S.) *The Best Books, a Reader's Guide to the Best Available Books*, 4to. 21/ cl.

Van Sommer's (E.) *Martin's Inheritance*, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.

Watt's (F.) *Pictorial Chronicles of the Mighty Deep*, 6/ cl.

FOREIGN.

Fine Art.

Delaborde (Vicente H.) et Haussoullier (W.): *Les Maitres Florentins du quinzième siècle*, Part 3, 30fr.

Schmarsow (A.): *Giovanni Santi, der Vater Raphaels*, 3m.

History.

Schlossberger (A. v.): *Briefwechsel der Königin Katharina u. d. Königs Jerome*, Vol. 2, 8m.

Philology.

Adam (E.): *Ueb. Sir Torrent of Portyngale*, 1m.

Blaydes (F. H. M.): *Aristophanis Comedias: Part 7, Acharnenses*, 10m.

Brossmann (K.): *Ueb. die Quellen der Mittellenglischen Chronik d. Robert v. Gloucester*, 1m.

Brughe (H.): *Die Frieterschrift v. Merco*, 7m.

Caro (J.): *Horn Child and Maiden Rimnild*, 1m.

Hertterich (O.): *Studien zu den York Plays*, 1m.

Hoffmann (M.): *Ueb. die Allegorie in Spenser's Faerie Queene*, 1m. 50.

Kopka (F.): *The Destruction of Jerusalem*, e. Mittellengl. Alliterier. Gedicht, 1m.

Körting (G.): *Neuphilologische Essays*, 4m.

Lagarde (P. de): *Mittheilungen*, Vol. 2, 12m.

Schmidt (H.): *Richard Stanyhurst's Uebersetzung v. Vergil's Aeneide I.-IV.*, 1m.

Schmirgel (O.): *Stil u. Sprache d. Mittellenglischen Epos Sir Beves of Hamtoun*, 1m.

Wandschneider (W.): *Zur Syntax d. Verbs in Piers Plowman*, 1m. 20.

Science.

Günther (S.): *Geschichte d. Mathematischen Unterrichts im Deutschen Mittelalter*, 12m.

Zittel (K. A.): *Handbuch der Paläontologie: Paläozoologie, Part 10, 10m.; Paläophytologie, Part 5, 3m.*

General Literature.

Altieri (La Princesse Olga Cantacuzène): *Une Exaltée*, 3fr.

Bouvier (A.): *La Petite Baronne*, 3fr. 50.

O'Beil (Max): *L'Ami Mac Donald*, 3fr. 50.

Pavie (V.): *Œuvres Choieses*, 2 vols. 6fr.

THE "EXTERMINATION THEORY" OF THE ENGLISH CONQUEST.

AN address which covers rapidly so wide a field as was traversed by Prof. Sayce in his opening lecture to the Anthropological Section of the British Association must necessarily lend itself to criticism. At leisure no doubt the speaker would be able to satisfy us upon many points

which as he put them may be questioned. For instance, he entirely repudiates the "extermination theory" of the English conquest of Britain. The only arguments which are adduced are not very convincing. They are, a, continuity of Roman customs and land tenure; b, a philological argument; c, arguments founded on personal appearance of English people; d, the alleged necessity of our ancestors having married Welshwomen, because they came by sea. a is a matter far too complicated for any discussion in the address or here; but valuable as is Mr. Seeborn's book, alluded to by Prof. Sayce, I think I am justified in saying that that question is *sub judice* still. b, the philological argument, needs, first, the proof that the Welsh talked Latin and not Welsh. The argument that Welsh was restored to its place by the conquest of Cunedda's sons in Gwynedd does not explain why Cornish and not Latin was talked in West Wales, nor, I believe, why Welsh was talked in South Wales and parts of the neighbourhood, as, e.g., in parts of the diocese of Hereford, as late as Elizabeth's reign. Secondly, the proof is needed that the Latin words, names of flowers and fruit, and so on, found in Anglo-Saxon are contemporaneous with the conquest. Were the poppy and the cherry in Britain at all when the English conquered it, or were they a later introduction? In the matter of c, personal appearance of Englishmen, it may be answered that history tells of a far greater infusion of foreign blood by the arrival of French and Walloon Protestants, literally in tens of thousands, from about 1570 till about 1735, than was made at the Norman Conquest or at any other time. Of course the warmest partisan of the "extermination theory" will not contend for an absolute and literal extermination, destruction, or expulsion of all the Welsh, even from the south and east. Merely such an extermination as to fix the general Teutonic character of the people is what we contend for. Possibly here or there, in the Fens or the Weald, for instance, Iberian if not Celtic features may be recognized. Most of our foreign features, however, I believe to be due to refugees. d supposes that our ancestors were incapable of going to sea. Probably they were as useful in a boat as their untamed daughters are now in every fishing village. If the ships of the Low German and Scandinavian people did not convey women, how was Iceland populated at all? There was no one there for the colonists to marry. When the colonizing period of the English conquest set in Englishwomen would follow their husbands, as they followed them to New England or New South Wales.

In 1841 the female English population of New South Wales was about half the male population, yet the country is now inhabited by Europeans with no trace of aboriginal blood. Two points in connexion with the English conquest are often overlooked. First, it was spread over a long time. Low German pirates were attacking Britain in the reign of Diocletian at the end of the third century. Theodosius rescued London from them in the fourth century, and there is every reason to believe that they were continually coming. So were Scots and Picts. These assailants did not settle, but they destroyed population. As the Malays drove the Dyaks into the interior of Borneo, as the Afghan Frontier Commission the other day found miles of formerly inhabited land abandoned owing to Turcoman marauders, so the coast of the British seas and rivers was deserted. Fortified towns or the interior were the only safe refuge. The population of the whole empire was diminishing, and Britain would be no exception. Places like London, depending on trade, would dwindle rapidly after the withdrawal of the legions. The fifty-six British cities of Ptolemy are reduced to twenty-eight and some castles in the time of Gildas. A period equal to the time which has elapsed since

Charles II.'s reign was passed in continual and increasing plundering before the era of settlement came on. Then there was—and this is my second point—plenty of room for the settlers and plenty of room for the Welsh to occupy, as they went westward to avoid the renewed forays carried on over land by the new settlers. This is the historical account; not that all the Welsh were killed, but that many were killed and most of the rest migrated. When, as from the western counties, there was no longer room to migrate, the populations did mix to some extent. If the Welsh were not nearly entirely turned out from most of England proper, from the best inhabited parts up to this century, if there was merely a political conquest, we should see more evidence of it. This happened abroad, and we know what followed. The religion, the language, the features, the local names, the village names of the conquered predominated still over most of Gaul, Spain, and Lombard Italy. When we find the exact contrary here; when we find paganism, a Teutonic tongue, Teutonic village names universal in the greater part of England, must we not infer a very different conquest from the Frank, Gothic, Burgundian, or Lombard conquest? Names like Kent, the Thames, London, are no more proofs of present Celtic population than Massachusetts, the Potomac, and Chicago are proofs of present Indian population.

So some other points are not to be taken as unquestionable because they are advanced with the authority of the president of a branch of the Association. The Scots and Picts, we are told, wore kilts, and the Britons trousers, and an argument for their respective origins may be raised thereon. So the professor says. Οὐτος δ' ἔμοιγε παῖσιν ἰδοῦκε, like the Egyptian scribe whom Herodotus did not believe; for turning to the reference given in Gildas, I only find that he complains that the Scots and Picts wore beards, and did not wear enough clothes to satisfy his sense of decency, while of the British trousers he says nothing at all. Is it not a matter of common notoriety that kilts were invented in the last century? The more respectable Highlanders used to wear trews, the rest a shirt and plaid. The matter is unimportant, but was the speaker poking fun at us in some other parts of his address also? HENRY ELLIOT MALDEN.

ANTONIO DE VERONA.

49, Lanark Villas, Malda Vale, Sept. 5, 1887.

THE discovery of this Jew at Cambridge about the year 1625 will, perhaps, explain a memorandum in the State Papers of the period (Calendar, Dom., 1625-26, p. 98) relating to the grant of a pension of 40l. "to a Jew at Cambridge as long as he shall remain in his Majesty's dominions." The original record in Fetter Lane supplies no clue to the identity of this Jew. I imagined at one time that he might have been Jacob Barnett, the Hebrew teacher at the sister university, in whom Isaac Casaubon was interested in 1613; but in the unprinted registers of the Privy Council there is a minute, dated November 16th, 1613, directing the issue of a warrant for the expulsion from the realm of "Jacobus Bernatus, a Jew." As far as date and locality are concerned, Antonio de Verona would fully satisfy the requirements of the incomplete record in the State Papers.

The theory Mr. Thorold Rogers puts forward in explanation of how Antonio got into Henrietta Maria's good graces is quite untenable. It is not likely that "a shrewd financial agent in London"—being at the same time a Jew—would have indulged in Hebrew studies at Cambridge in 1625. Had he done so he would have directed public attention to the fact that he was a Jew, and thus incurred the risk of hindrance in his financial dealings, if not of confiscation of his property. The commercial Jews in the country at the time took good care to disguise their Judaism. On the other hand, learned Hebraists

had nothing to lose by disclosing theirs; indeed, the publicity of the fact would, in a certain measure, have been regarded as a certificate of their Hebrew learning. Besides, is it probable that "a shrewd financial agent" would have been wasting his time begging a sum of two pounds from King's College, Cambridge? It is more likely that Antonio was known to Henrietta Maria at Paris as a co-religionist of Felix Montalto, her mother's trusted Hebrew physician. Montalto and his brother Amatus Lusitanus resided at Verona in an early period of their careers.

That there was a considerable Jewish movement in England in the first quarter of the seventeenth century I showed in a paper on 'The Middle Age of Anglo-Jewish History' (1290-1656), read at the Jewish exhibition last June, and which will shortly be published.

LUCIEN WOLF.

'THE HERMIT OF MARLOW.'

741, Lexington Avenue, New York, Aug. 28, 1887.

In your review of 'The Hermit of Marlow,' August 13th, you state that the name of R. Owen must surely be a mistake. You are correct; the name as it stands in the original manuscript before me is plainly written "Owen," thus: "Mr. R. Owen of Lanark." There is also another name in the list which has escaped the copyist; that is "The Duke of Sussex," which follows that of "Mr. Andrew Duncan," making the entire list, as Shelley wrote it, forty-one names, instead of forty, as Mr. Forman has it. C. W. FREDERICKSON.

THE REV. ALEXANDER NAPIER.

ALEXANDER NAPIER, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, whose sudden death occurred on August 24th, was for forty years Vicar of Holkham, Norfolk, of which place he had been previously curate. As son of Prof. Macvey Napier, editor of the *Edinburgh Review*, and educated at the Edinburgh Academy while Edinburgh was yet noted for its literary society, Mr. Napier's tastes were early led in that direction. But though he entered at Trinity full of the ardent zeal and enthusiasm for literature which distinguished him through life, he could not force himself into profitable lines of study, and his university career was a failure. Nevertheless his ability was recognized, and Dr. Whewell, then tutor, ever continued his friend, and became his co-jutor in literary work. Mr. Napier's first publications were translations from the German of Neander. He was then engaged for many years on the Cambridge edition of Barrow's works (of which he was editor), published in 1859. In 1872 he translated and edited Elze's 'Life of Byron'; in 1876, Payer's 'New Lands within the Arctic Circle.' His last and chief work was to edit Boswell's 'Life of Johnson,' published in 1884.

In politics Mr. Napier was a consistent and earnest Liberal. In religion he as a young man sat at the feet of Newman and Pusey, but he was too vigorous and bold a thinker to remain there long. His knowledge of books, and untiring courtesy as librarian at Holkham, gained him many friends at home and abroad, and his eloquence and fine memory gave him great charm and power as a preacher and speaker. A.

THE COMING PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSRS. WARD & DOWNEY'S announcements for the coming season include the following new books: 'The Life and Times of John Wilkes,' by Percy Fitzgerald, 2 vols.,—'The Personal Recollections of the Duc de Broglie,' 2 vols.,—'A Year in the Great Republic,' by E. Katharine Bates, 2 vols.,—'The Emperor William: the Story of a Great King and a Good Man,' by the late Dr. Strauss,—'Recollections of Liszt,' by Madam Janka Wohl,—'The Memoirs of an Arabian Princess,'—'A Short Life of Verdi,'

by Blanche Roosevelt,—'Ourselves and our Neighbours,' by Louise Chandler Moulton,—'Ignorant Essays,' by a Novelist,—'The Chameleon: Many-Coloured Essays,' by Charles J. Dunphie,—'Grace and Folly: Dancers and Dancing,' by Edward Scott,—'The Diamond Lens, and other Stories,' by Fitzjames O'Brien, with a biographical sketch of the author by William Winter,—'The Twin Soul: a Psychological Novel,' 2 vols.,—'The Fox and the Goose: a Story of the Curragh,'—'The Chequers: being the Natural History of a Public-House,' by James Runciman,—'The Story of Antony Grace,' by George Manville Fenn, illustrated by Gordon Browne,—'Through Green Glasses,' by F. M. Allen, illustrated by M. Fitzgerald,—'John o' London: a Story of the Days of Roger Bacon,' by the author of 'The New River,'—'The Moderate Man, and other Humorous Poems,' by Edwin Hamilton, illustrated by Harry Furniss,—and 'Yesterday and To-day, Poems,' by George Cotterell. Also new editions, each in one volume, of the following novels: 'At the Red Glove,' by Katharine S. Macquoid, illustrated by C. S. Reinhart,—'Jack Allyn's Friends,' by G. W. Appleton,—'Miss Elvestor's Girls,' by M. W. Paxton,—'Lieutenant Barnabas,' by Frank Barrett,—'What Hast thou Done?' by Fitzgerald Molloy,—'The Prettiest Woman in Warsaw,' by Mabel Collins,—'Jack and Three Gills,' by F. C. Philips,—'Louisa,' by Katharine S. Macquoid,—'Frozen Hearts,' by G. W. Appleton,—'The New River,' by Somerville Gibney,—'That Villain Romeo,' by Fitzgerald Molloy,—and 'Double Cunning,' by George Manville Fenn. And new editions of 'Royalty Restored; or, London under Charles II.,' by Fitzgerald Molloy,—'Ancient Legends, Mystic Charms, and Superstitions of Ireland,' by Lady Wilde,—and 'Eighty-five Years of Irish History,' by W. J. O'Neill Daunt. New novels by James Payn, Mrs. Riddell, George Manville Fenn, Rita, William Westall, Fitzgerald Molloy, Leslie Keith, F. C. Philips, and others, will also be issued by the same firm during the season.

Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co.'s announcements include, among devotional and theological books: 'Lenten Sermons,' preached at St. Agnes', Kennington, in Lent, 1887, by Canon H. M. Luckock, Canon Scott-Holland, and others, edited by the Rev. T. Birkett Dover,—'Cathedral Sermons,' by George Edward Jelf, Canon Residentiary of Rochester Cathedral,—'The Teaching of the Prayer Book for the Children of the Church,' by Rev. E. T. Stevens,—and 'The Science of Religions,' by Émile Boutroux, translated by J. Liebie. Among natural history and scientific books: 'The Microscope,' edited from the work of Profs. Naegeli and Schwendener by Frank Crisp, LL.D., and J. Mayall, jun., F.R.M.S.,—'Animal Biology,' by Adam Sedgwick, of Trinity College, Cambridge,—'Architectural Styles,' by Ernest Radford,—'The Farmer's Friends and Foes,' by Theodore Wood,—'Poultry,' by Ralph O. Edwards, F.Z.S.,—in the "Young Collector" Series: 'British Fishes' and 'Mammalia,' by F. A. Skuse; 'Reptiles,' by Catherine Hopley; 'Ants and Bees,' by W. Harcourt Bath; 'Silkworms,' by E. A. Butler,—'Digestion, Perfect and Imperfect,' by Dr. A. E. Bridger,—'The Theory of Harmony,' by Moritz Hauptmann, translated and edited by W. Heathcote and H. Keatley Moore,—'A Catechism of Psychology,' by F. Kirchner, translated and edited by E. Drought,—and 'A Criticism of the Kantian Philosophy,' by Prof. Kuno Fischer, translated by Dr. W. S. Hough. Among historical and biographical books, and books of travel and adventure: 'Russia, Political and Social,' by L. Tikhomirov, translated by Dr. Edward Aveling, 2 vols.,—'The Russian Peasantry,' by Stepniak, 2 vols.,—'Pepps and the World He Lived In,' by H. B. Wheatley, F.S.A.,—'Boswell's Johnson,' edited by Percy Fitzgerald, 3 vols.,—'St. Simon's

Memoirs in the Reign of Louis XIV. and the Regency,' translated by Bayle St. John, 3 vols.,—'Louise de Kéroualle, Duchess of Portsmouth,' compiled from State papers by H. Fornéron, translated by Mrs. Crawford,—'The Solomon Islands and their Natives,' and 'The Geology and Physical Characteristics of the Solomon Islands,' by H. B. Guppy, M.B.,—'Bayreuth and Franconian Switzerland,' by R. Milner Barry,—and 'Life in the Cut,' by Amos Reade. Among educational works: 'The History of Pedagogy: a New History of Educational Theories,' by Gabriel Compayré, translated by Prof. W. H. Payne,—'The Principles of Philology,' edited from the German of Prof. Paul by Prof. H. A. Strong,—'The Parallel Grammar Series,' edited by Prof. E. A. Sonnenschein, including 'Latin,' by Prof. Sonnenschein; 'French,' by Prof. Moriarty; 'German,' by Prof. Kuno Meyer,—'The N.-G.-A. Latin Primer,' by G. Stewart Levaack,—'A School Arithmetic,' by G. H. Bateson-Wright, head master of Government Central School, Hong Kong,—'A Primer of German Literature,' by Isabella H. Lublin,—'Health Maps for Instruction in Gymnastics,' by Anna Leffler-Arnim,—'Volapuk; or, the Universal Language,' by Prof. Kirchhoff,—'A Child's History of the English People,' by Amy Baker, 4 vols.,—and 'Cresus Minor: Essays on Education,' by Austen Pember. Among social and political books: 'English Associations of Working Men,' by Dr. Baernreither, translated by Alice Taylor, 2 vols.,—'The Redemption of Labour,' by Cecil B. Phipson, 2 vols.,—'Liberty and Law,' by George Lucy,—'Essays, Literary and Social,' by H. S. Salt,—and 'London Government,' by J. F. B. Firth. The following poetical, antiquarian, and fine-art books: 'Through the Wordsworth Country,' by Prof. William Knight, with etchings of lake scenery by Harry Goodwin,—'The Legend of Saint Jucundus,' etchings by George Hodgson, with verse by Edith Wallis Robinson,—Horace Walpole's 'Anecdotes of Painting in England,' revised by Ralph N. Wornum, 3 vols.,—and 'Women must Weep,' poems by Prof. Harald Williams. Some novels, viz., 'No Quarter,' posthumous novel by Capt. Mayne Reid,—'Ireland's Dream,' by Capt. Lyon,—'Nadia; or, Out of the Beaten Track,' translated from the Russian of Orloffsky by the Baroness Langenau,—'Philip Alwyne,' by Jessie K. Sikes,—'A Nest on the Hill,' by J. F. Higgins,—'St. Bernards: the Romance of a Medical Student,' by Æsculapius Scalpel,—'A Swallow's Wing,' by Charles Hannan,—'Caught by the Tide,' by A. L. Garland,—'Twixt Love and Sport,' by G. F. Underhill,—'Blood!' by W. De Lisle Hay,—'Lucy Carter,' by T. Cobb,—'Gilbert Freethorne's Heritage,' by W. Erskine,—'Queer Stories from Truth,' vol. v.,—'Doonan,' by M. E. Granger,—'Jonathan,' by M. Fraser-Tytler,—'Alma,' by Emma Marshall,—and 'The Sport of Circumstances,' by Louis E. Armstrong. The following gift-books: 'Indian Fables,' by P. V. Ramaswami Raju,—'From Deacon to Churchwarden,' by Dr. J. W. Kirton,—'Kintail Place,' by the author of 'Dorothy,' illustrated edition,—'Adventures of a Monkey,' by the author of 'Moravian Life in the Black Forest,'—and 'Mace's Fairy Tales,' translated by Caroline Genn. The same publishers will issue 'The Best Books,' a classified bibliography of about 25,000 of the best current books in all departments of modern literature, with the prices, sizes, dates of first and last editions, and the name of the publisher of each book, by Wm. Swan Sonnenschein.

Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton's autumn list includes the following: 'The Life of Samuel Morley,' by Edwin Hodder, biographer of the late Earl of Shaftesbury,—'Modern Science in Bible Lands,' by Sir J. William Dawson, F.R.S.,—'The Life of W. Morley Punshon, LL.D.,' by Prof. F. W. Macdonald,—'The Ancient World and Christianity,' by E. de Pressensé, D.D.,—'Unfinished Worlds,' by S. H. Parkes, F.R.A.S., with illustrative diagrams,—'History of the

Church,' by the Rev. Prof. George P. Fisher, D.D.,—'The Sower and the Virgin,' by Lord Robert Montagu,—'Scripture Truths derived from Facts in Nature,' by Henry McCook, D.D., and 'Tenants of an Old Farm: Leaves from the Note-Book of a Naturalist,' by the same author,—'The Key-Words of the Bible,' by the Rev. A. T. Pierson, D.D.,—'Practical Studies in the Life and Character of St. Peter,' by the Rev. H. A. Birks,—'Bible Models,' by Richard Newton, D.D.,—'The Books of the Bible,' by the late Dr. W. P. Mackay,—and 'Albert, the Prince Consort: a Biography for the People.'

Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton also announce the following books for young people: 'Wonderful Stories of Daring, Peril, and Adventure,' by Dr. Macaulay,—'Harry Milvaine; or, the Wanderings of a Wayward Boy,' by Dr. Gordon Stables, R.N.,—'The Willoughby Captains: a School Story,' by Talbot Baines Reed,—'More True than Truthful: a Story,' by C. M. Clarke,—an illustrated edition of 'Stepping Heavenward,' by Mrs. Prentiss, the illustrations printed in monotint,—'Eunice: a Story,' by the author of 'Christie Redfern,'—'A Son of the Morning,' by Sarah Doudney,—'Sukie's Boy,' by Sarah Tytler,—'The Boy without a Name,' by W. M. Thayer, author of 'From Log Cabin to White House,'—'The Sunday Book of Story and Parable,' with numerous illustrations,—'Candalaria, a Heroine of the Wild West,' by the author of 'Our Honolulu Boys,'—and 'Cost What It May,' by Mrs. E. E. Hornibrook.

Mr. John Hogg's list comprises 'The Afternoon Tea Book,' by Agnes C. Maitland,—'A Professional Secret, and other Tales,' by W. W. Fenn, with illustrations by H. W. Petherick,—'Mrs. Trumpet's Telescope, and the Use She Made of It, and other Tales,' by Alan Muir,—new editions of 'A Noble Name, and How it was Upheld,' the last novel by the author of 'Jennie of the Prince's,' with a frontispiece by F. W. Burton; 'Soldiers' Stories and Sailors' Yarns,' with illustrations by Harry Furniss, Percy Macquoid, and D. H. Friston; and 'Children's Children,' by Alan Muir,—and the following new illustrated juvenile books: 'Little Neighbours in London' and 'A Strange Exhibition,' by E. C. Rickards; 'The Wondrous Tale of Cocky, Clucky, and Cackle,' freely translated from the German of Brentano by Charles William Heckethorn; and 'If Wishes were Horses, Beggars would Ride,' by M. Seymour.

Literary Gossip.

At the end of the present month Messrs. Hurst & Blackett will publish in two volumes 'Lady Hamilton and Lord Nelson: an Historical Biography,' by Mr. John Cordy Jeaffreson. Based on original letters and other documents belonging to Mr. Alfred Morrison, this complete "Life" of Lady Hamilton will, it is said, contain a good deal of new information respecting the famous beauty.

The October number of the *English Illustrated Magazine* will be the first of the fifth volume. Among the contents will be an article on Somerset in June, by the late Richard Jefferies, with numerous illustrations by Mr. J. W. North, and the first of a series of papers on 'Coaching Days and Coaching Ways,' which is to be jointly illustrated by Messrs. Hugh Thomson and Herbert Railton. The number will also contain a poem by Mr. Swinburne, and a hymn by Mr. F. Marion Crawford which is to be sung at the centenary celebration of the signature of the Constitution of the United States at Philadelphia on the 15th inst. The first chapters of two new serial stories by the author of 'Mehalah' and Prof. W. Minto,

and the first of a series of articles on things in general by Mr. H. D. Traill, which is to be a monthly feature of the *English Illustrated Magazine*, complete the number.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"The lists I have seen recently of the late Richard Jefferies's works omit a story published by Tinsley Brothers about 1876, the title of which was 'The Scarlet Shawl,' and the author Richard Jefferies. I do not think it is clearly known whether the author of 'The Scarlet Shawl' is the same Richard Jefferies who wrote 'The Gamekeeper at Home.' May I ask the question in your columns?"

DR. SINKER is engaged in writing a memoir of his late friend the Hon. Ion Keith Falconer, which will contain numerous extracts from his letters. The work is expected to appear next year.

'WILLIAM I. AND THE GERMAN EMPIRE' is the title of a biographical and historical work by Mr. G. Barnett Smith, now in the press. It will be published next month by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co.

MR. WESTALL's new three-volume novel, 'Her Two Millions,' will be published about the end of September by Messrs. Ward & Downey. The same firm will issue next week a new novel in three volumes by Rita, the title of which is 'Gretchen.'

'VERT DE VERT'S ETON DAYS, AND OTHER SKETCHES AND MEMORIES,' by A. G. LeStrange, author of 'The Friendships of Mary Russell Mitford,' is announced by Mr. Elliot Stock for immediate publication.

MESSRS. C. GRIFFIN & Co. have in preparation a translation of Prof. Schrader's 'Sprachvergleichung und Urgeschichte.' The English version will be by Mr. F. B. Jevons, M.A., of Durham University, and Prof. Schrader will contribute an introduction, dealing with the controversies which his work has called forth.

A NEW edition of the bulky volume known as the 'Reference Catalogue of Current Literature' will be issued from the *Bookseller* office some time in next year. The volume will consist of upwards of four thousand pages, and will be supplied to publishers and booksellers, as the former issues were, at a nominal price, but after publication the price will be advanced.

MESSRS. I. PITMAN & SONS will publish at the close of September an illustrated edition of 'Robinson Crusoe' in phonography, which is being prepared by Mr. J. Herbert Ford, who recently succeeded to the editorship of the *Shorthand Magazine* on the death of Mr. Frederick Pitman.

FOR some months considerable excitement has existed in York on the question of adopting the Free Libraries Act, and an appeal has just been made to the ratepayers, the result of the poll showing for the adoption of the Act 2,015, and against 2,832.

MR. G. J. HOLYOAKE's presidential address at the Carlisle Congress has been issued by the Co-operative Board in Manchester. The edition consists of 50,000 copies.

'CHRONICLES OF THE CUMMING CLUB, AND OLD ACADEMY DAYS,' is the title of a volume compiled by Col. Ferguson, and nearly ready for issue from Messrs. Constable's Edinburgh press. James Cumming, LL.D.

in whose honour the club was founded thirty-six years ago by certain of his former pupils at the Edinburgh Academy, was the much respected teacher of Archbishop Tait, Frederick Robertson, Sir M. Grant Duff, Profs. Guthrie Tait and Fleeming Jenkin, and Sir Ed. Harland, besides many Crimean and Indian soldiers. Notices of many of these, and of the Rector, Archdeacon Williams; the eccentric Dr. Gloag; Col. Ballard, the defender of Silistria; and other Academicians, will be found in this volume.

MESSRS. EDMOND & SPARK, of Aberdeen, have in preparation 'Merchant and Craft Guilds: a History of the Aberdeen Incorporated Trades.' Mr. Ebenezer Bain is the author.

THE Council of the Scottish Society of Literature and Art last week elected Max O'Rell an honorary corresponding member of the society. The present foreign corresponding members are M. Jules Verne, Mark Twain, Mr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Mr. John Greenleaf Whittier.

IN conjunction with Mr. T. M. Healy, M.P. for Longford, Mr. Maurice Healy, who has been long known in political circles as one of the best legal authorities in the ranks of the Irish Nationalists, and who since 1885 has been Mr. Parnell's colleague in the representation of Cork City, has just completed a key to the new Land Act. The book, which will be published by Messrs. Gill, of Dublin, is intended as a popular book of reference, and, for the convenience of those who wish to consult it, each subject dealt with by the Act is considered in a separate chapter complete in itself. It merely explains the effect of the various provisions of the Act, without criticism on its scope and purpose.

MR. M. W. ROONEY writes from Dublin: "Mrs. Sharpe, the author of 'Dame Wiggins of Lee,' has many literary associations surrounding her name. She was the sister-in-law of Mr. C. Sharpe, of the firm of Vernon, Hood & Sharpe, Mr. Hood being the father of the poet. C. Sharpe, after the firm had lost money in bringing out some of the best illustrated books of that period, came here and became literary auctioneer, and sold the best portion of all the fine libraries during his forty years' residence here."

MR. SORABJE JEHANGIR, chief magistrate of Baroda, who is now in this country, is editing a work containing portraits and biographical sketches of distinguished Indian statesmen. The first volume will contain a memoir of Lord Dufferin, but it will chiefly consist of biographies of the statesmen of Western India.

THE current number of the *Deutsche Rundschau* contains an interesting contribution to Heine literature. In 1846 the false rumour of Heine's death had spread, and his friend Heinrich Laube at once sent a highly appreciative obituary notice of the poet to the, then *Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung*. Fortunately a letter from Heine himself arrived at the same time with that notice, which was, of course, not printed. Dr. Gustav Karpeles, having discovered the extremely well-written notice, now gives it *in extenso* in the above-mentioned periodical.

THE French work 'Chasses et Voyages,' by Prince Philip of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, which we recently mentioned was going to be published at Vienna, is, it appears,

merely a translation of the author's German work, and not an original production. It is to be hoped that the book has not been rendered into the Viennese suburban or "Lerchenfelder Französisch," which bears a strong affinity to the "French of Stratford atte Bowe."

THE foundation of a Hutten-Sickingen monument is to be laid at the Ebernburg am Stein on April 21st of next year, being the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of the former. The Ebernburg was the property of Sickingen, and Hutten, together with other Reformers, found there a refuge.

THE Historical Society of French Switzerland has held its fiftieth annual meeting. The Castle of Chillon was chosen as the place of assembly, with the view of forwarding the project long under discussion of furnishing the castle as a national historical museum.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"The Swiss papers record the death of the venerable historical scholar Dr. Friedrich Egbert von Müllinen, the editor of the 'Helvetia Sacra.' Dr. von Müllinen was a laborious collector and editor of historical documents, especially in his own canton of Bern. His most useful work, the 'Prodromus,' is a general Swiss historiography, which contains an exhaustive list of the chroniclers and historians of the different cantons from the earliest times. He was engaged recently upon the compilation of a specific 'Bernische Heimatkunde,' in which he hoped to include an account of every place and every historical family in the canton. Dr. von Müllinen visited every village and parsonage to explore its archives and documents. He was not, strictly speaking, an historian, but his long life was spent in gathering together and elucidating the materials of history. He was one of the most active members of the Historische Verein of Bern, and a member of many historical and archaeological societies, Swiss and foreign. He was also an active co-operator in the 'Sammlung Bernischen Biographien.'"

AN International Literary Congress will be opened at Madrid on the 9th of October by the Queen of Spain. Literary men from all parts are expected to be present.

PRINCE NICOLAUS of Montenegro has bestowed upon the Serbian poet Iovanovic the grand cross of the "Danilo Order," presenting him at the same time with a house and grounds. Iovanovic is a pronounced Pan Slavist.

WE record the death of Mrs. Etherington Guyton, who under her maiden name of Emma Jane Worboise was known for many years as the author of a large number of novels of a religious and domestic character. Besides her works of fiction, which in their collected form fill nearly fifty volumes, she was the author of some poems and of a popular 'Life of Dr. Arnold.' She was a constant contributor to the *Christian World* and to the *Christian World Magazine*, of which she was editor until her health failed about a year ago. At the same time she was succeeded in the fiction department of the *Christian World* by Mrs. Amelia E. Barr.

THE death is announced of Mr. James Robie, who was formerly editor and proprietor of the *Caledonian Mercury*. Mr. Robie, we believe, began his career as a journalist on the Irish press, and was at one period connected with the *Banner of Ulster*. He died at Manchester at the age of sixty-three.

THE death occurred on the 2nd inst. of Dr. Strauss, who was well known as the author of 'Reminiscences of an Old Bohemian' and other works. He was one of the founders of the Savage Club. We hope to give a memoir of Dr. Strauss next week.

THE chief Parliamentary Papers of the week are Public Works (Ireland), Fifty-fifth Report; Banking in Ireland, Report; Dublin Hospitals, Annual Report; Railways (Share and Loan Capital, &c.), Annual Report; Bankruptcy, Fourth Annual Report; Lighthouses, &c. (Local Inspections), Report; China, No. 3, 1887 (Burmah and Thibet), Convention; Public Accounts, Report; Local Government Board, 1886-7, Report; Post Office Savings Banks (Counties), Return; Sunday Postal Labour, Report, Evidence, &c.; Education (England and Wales, and Scotland), 1886-7, Reports; Local Government Board (Ireland), Annual Report; Army Medical Department, Report for the year 1885; Customs, Annual Report; and reports on the trade of Rio de Janeiro and Chile.

SCIENCE

A Treatise upon Cable or Rope Traction as applied to the Working of Street and other Railways. By J. Bucknall Smith, C.E. ('Engineering' Office.)

THE facts that upwards of twelve and a half millions sterling have been expended on the tramways of the United Kingdom, and that about 3 per cent. of the population is carried daily by this means of transport, at an average fare of less than three halfpence per person, are sufficient to show what importance this minor form of railway has already attained. "Tramways," remarks Mr. Bucknall Smith with much justice,

"is the recognized, but wholly indefensible term applied in this country to street railways, which form carriage or car ways of comparatively low traction resistance, so constructed and laid as not to practically interfere with ordinary vehicular and foot traffic common to public thoroughfares."

These street railways, indeed, are now laid with steel rails, are worked in many instances by locomotive power, and have cost, on an average, considerably more per mile than the railways of the United States.

In regarding urban traffic it is instructive to remark the disadvantages that accompany any serious effort to reduce the price of transport. Thus the mere cost of locomotion is reduced to a minimum by the construction of underground ways, on which the traffic may be propelled by steam at a running speed of forty-five miles per hour. But the saving in time thus effected is counterbalanced by the need for frequent stoppages at short distances; and the enormous cost of construction is such as to reduce the profit to the shareholder to less than the half of that which the proprietors of those old-fashioned vehicles on the common road, which the railway was expected to destroy, still steadily earn and enjoy. The light street railway is intermediate between the underground railway and the omnibus. The capital outlay, however, has already assumed formidable dimensions; and the fact that the coefficient of working cost is so high as to absorb from

70 to 77 per cent. of the fare is one with which the engineer is far from feeling satisfied. "That animal power for working tramcars is most unsuitable, and that some form of mechanical traction ought to be substituted for the same, is now generally admitted by those acquainted with the subject," may be allowed. At the same time, from the shareholders' point of view, it must be observed that horse power has been again resorted to on not a few of those lines on which locomotives have for a time been tried. If this be regarded as a retrograde movement, so must the reintroduction of cable traction be called. The Blackwall Railway was laid out by Mr. Robert Stephenson in 1835 to be worked by cables; but the system was finally abandoned in 1848. The rope incline from Euston Square to Camden Town, and that which worked with a counterbalanced weight at Oldham, are other cases of the same kind.

Mr. Bucknall Smith is no violent or indiscriminating advocate of cable propulsion under all circumstances. But he cites cases where successful results, both mechanical and physical, have been obtained by this method, and his book is so far a trustworthy and valuable contribution to the literature of the subject. It will be more appreciated by the engineer than by the financier, as the latter has rather to hunt through the book for results which might have been advantageously thrown into tabular form, though the engineering details are full and lucid. An English reader will turn with greater interest to the accounts of what has been done in this country than to results in America, under conditions which may considerably vary from those to which we are accustomed. "The Chicago lines," says Mr. Smith, "appear a great success, and the same remark may be applied to the Highgate Hill Cable Line, London, which was opened to the public on the 29th May, 1884, and has been in satisfactory operation ever since." Turning to the notice of this line in chapter v., we find an intelligible account of its mechanism. Its cost, for nearly a mile in length, was 25,000*l.*, exclusive of "parliamentary expenses, promoters' and patentees' charges, parish work, &c., which were heavy items." From May, 1884, to the present date a considerable amount of experience must have been obtained as to this line, which might have been given in a very definite form from the yearly accounts. But we only find that "in some summer months the cars have earned as much as 4*s.* per mile run, *e.g.*, bringing a total revenue of 1,850*l.* (during the months of June, July, and August) with a working expense of about 715*l.*, being equal to about 39 per cent. of the gross receipts." But we want to know what have been the earnings and what the cost year by year, and also what have been the fares. Mr. Smith says: "Assuming the line to be located on level ground, locomotives could scarcely do the work under 7*d.* per car mile, or ideal compressed-air motors under 9*d.* per car mile, whereas the cable system, if judiciously applied, can certainly be worked for 5*d.* per car mile, including depreciation." But 39 per cent. on 4*s.* is not 5*d.*, but 18*d.* No doubt there is some explanation of this, but it does not come out very clearly to the reader. Again, the rise of the hill is a considerable element in the cost, and one,

moreover, greatly in favour of a line worked by stationary power as compared to locomotive propulsion. But we are only told that "the gradients along the road vary from 1 in 11 to 1 in 75," and we do not find the total rise to be stated. During the last half-year the expenses of the London General Omnibus Company have been 8*s.* 34*d.* per mile run; and as far as these figures go it looks as if the amount of capital expended for the introduction of this form of mechanical power had in this particular instance been anything but satisfactory. If we are in error in this respect, it only the more clearly shows the want of those definite accounts to which we have referred.

In 1883 the average cost per passenger carried by the London General Omnibus Company was 2*s.* 29*d.*, that by the Metropolitan Railway, 1*s.* 80*d.*, and that by tramway, 1*s.* 93*d.*, interest on capital being excluded in each case. The data were not in existence to state the proportion per passenger mile or per car mile; but the differences, which are trustworthy, do not tally with those given by Mr. Smith, who puts horse traction at 9*d.* to 11*d.*, locomotive traction at 7*d.* to 8*d.*, and cable traction at 4*d.* to 5*d.* per car mile. The cable system, our author says, "has been practically worked with both mechanical and financial success for the last thirteen years, and about one hundred miles of line are in daily operation in the United States and our colonies." But in the decade 1876 to 1885 the length of tramways open in the United Kingdom has increased from 158 to 811 miles, and the number of passengers from 146,000,000 in 1878 to 364,000,000 in 1885. Had cable traction been all that Mr. Bucknall Smith thinks, it would surely have had some notable share in this rapid increase.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

It has sometimes been said of late that the British Association has fulfilled its original purpose, and that having accomplished all that was expected from it, its days are now numbered. To this pessimistic view the Manchester meeting lent no support whatever. The meeting has, in fact, been the largest gathering in the annals of the Association, the number of members and associates present having been about 3,830, thus exceeding by something like five hundred the number at any previous meeting. And while Manchester attracted this large and brilliant assembly, it also brought together an unusual amount of scientific material for its discussion. The number of communications was, indeed, so great that many of the sections were compelled to take the unusual course of splitting up into sub-sections, sitting simultaneously. At the same time it would be difficult to point to any special communications of exceptional interest, though the work of the meeting as a whole reached a high level of excellence, offering abundant evidence of solid and steady research.

Of all the sections, that which nominally takes the lead—Section A, devoted to Mathematics and Physics—is, perhaps, the least likely to attract non-mathematical members by the prospect of a popular opening address. Placed, however, at Manchester under the presidency of Sir Robert Ball, an attractive and even humorous discourse was anticipated by all who knew the brilliancy of the Irish astronomer. Nor was the audience disappointed. Under the title of 'A Dynamical Parable' the president discoursed on that part of the science of theoretical mechanics usually known as the "Theory of Screws," but discoursed in a manner marked

by much originality. He professed to narrate the proceedings of a hypothetical committee appointed to investigate and experiment upon certain dynamical phenomena; the committee consisting of Mr. Anharmonic, the geometer; Mr. One-to-one, in charge of the homographic department; Mr. Helix; Mr. Cartesian, a member of rather old-fashioned type; Mr. Commonsense, who was present as an *ex officio* member; and Mr. Querulous, who objected at first to serve on the committee at all, holding that the inquiry was sheer nonsense, because every one knew as much as he wanted to know about the matter, the whole subject having been settled long ago. How Mr. Querulous was finally converted can only be learnt by consulting the full proceedings of the committee, as inimitably detailed in the address itself.

In Section B—the Chemical Section—there was much less humour. Dr. Schunck, in opening the proceedings, drew a picture of chemistry as he knew it in his student days fifty years ago. Some originality was imported into the address by an exposition of his views on the constitution of chlorophyll, or the green colouring matter of leaves, which he regards as an unstable body of complex constitution, acting as a carrier of carbonic acid to the plant just as hæmoglobin acts as a carrier of oxygen in the animal economy.

Dr. H. Woodward in his presidential address to the Geological Section referred to the recent progress and present position of the National Survey, and called attention to Sir J. W. Dawson's scheme for a federal union of English-speaking geologists. The triennial meeting of the International Geological Congress, to be held in London next year, was naturally alluded to as an event of exceptional interest. Some wholesome advice was vouchsafed to young geologists, Dr. Woodward warning them against starting as "student specialists," and strongly urging the necessity of acquiring a broad knowledge of natural science before settling down to the exclusive study of an obscure corner.

In opening the Biological Section Prof. A. Newton announced that in the course of the present year the much-expected 'Life and Letters of Charles Darwin' will be published in three languages. Favoured by the author, Mr. Francis Darwin, with some advance sheets, the president was able to foreshadow the character of the work. Not the least interesting part will be that relating to the independent conception of the theory of natural selection by Mr. Wallace, and the amicable settlement of the question of priority between the two naturalists. In connexion with jubilee events it is curious to learn that Darwin's pocket-book for 1837—exactly fifty years ago—contains this entry: "In July opened first note-book on Transmutation of Species. Had been greatly struck from about the month of previous March on character of South American fossils, and species on Galapagos Archipelago. These facts (especially latter) origin of all my views."

Under the presidency of Sir Charles Warren, the Geographical Section was opened by an address on the teaching of geography in our schools, and the advantages which would accrue to the State by the introduction of an improved system of instruction. It was curious to find the president advocating a method of impressing the facts of geography upon the mind of a child "by means of verses or rhymes set to simple airs and committed to memory by song." Sir Charles amused the section by recounting the geographical eccentricities of some of his friends, who, though otherwise well educated, could never get right on some of the very simplest topographical facts. One individual, when suddenly thinking of Paris, invariably placed it to the north of London, while another always found it an effort to divest himself of the belief that the west-end of London was in the direction of the eastern coast.

Dr. Giffen opened the Section of Economi

Science and Statistics with a valuable discourse on 'The Recent Rate of Material Progress in England,' a topic peculiarly suitable to the commercial capital of England. An appeal to statistics shows that, notwithstanding what has sometimes been said to the contrary, the country has in most directions continued to advance, though the rate of advance during the last ten years has been less than in the immediately preceding period. In spite, however, of this apparent check to the growth of the country, the population has been increasing more rapidly than before, while there has been a steady diminution in pauperism and an increase in savings bank deposits and depositors. After a careful analysis and comparison of recent statistics, the president sees nothing very serious or alarming in the present state of things. "I see no cause to doubt," says Dr. Giffen, "that the future will be even more prosperous than the past. The national life seems as fresh and vigorous as ever. The unrest and complaints of the last few years are not bad signs. But the new conditions must be fully recognized. The utmost energy, mobility, and resource must be applied in every direction if we are only to hold our own."

Turning to the Mechanical Section, we find Prof. Osborne Reynolds surveying the progress of his science since the period of the last Manchester meeting six-and-twenty years ago. He was thus led to touch upon telephones, dynamos, gas engines, freezing apparatus, sewing machines, and even bicycles. The present year will be memorable in the annals of engineering by the commencement of the Manchester Ship Canal; and the engineer has to chronicle not only this event, but the completion of the Tay Bridge and the Severn Tunnel, as well as the progress of the Forth Bridge—assuredly not a bad record of work for a single year. Whatever depression may exist in commerce, Prof. Reynolds was justified in pointing out that these heroic achievements do not suggest any lack of enterprise in engineering works.

The latest born section of the Association—that of Anthropology—was presided over by Prof. Sayce, who delivered an able address on the study of language and the evidence which it affords as to the history and development of mankind. He enlarged on the popular error of confusing language and race, and pointed out that the distinctions of race must be older than the distinctions of language. Reference was made to Prof. Otto Schrader's researches, which tend to show that the speakers of the parent Aryan language must have lived in the stone age, in a cold climate, and in a state of civilization but little superior to that of the Fuegians before contact with European missionaries. Dr. Karl Penka, the Austrian anthropologist, has recently sought to prove that the first speakers of the Aryan languages were a light-haired, blue-eyed, fair-skinned, long-headed race, still represented in its greatest purity in Scandinavia. The permanent blanching of skin and hair is supposed to be due to long residence in the semi-arctic climate of paleolithic Europe.

Of the numerous papers contributed to the sections it is impossible to speak in detail. A noteworthy feature of the meeting was the temporary amalgamation of one section with another for the purpose of discussing some subject of common interest. Such was the union between the geologists and the biologists to receive Dr. Woodward's paper on the method of arranging collections of fossils; such, too, was the alliance between the geologists and the statisticians to discuss Mr. Topley's paper on the geological distribution of gold and silver, and their probable future production.

The evening lectures, by Prof. Harold Dixon on explosions and by Sir Francis de Winton on Central Africa, were admirable discourses, well worthy of the occasion. For the rest it may be said that the local authorities did their utmost to ensure success, though their efforts were fre-

quently thwarted by the unfavourable weather. It has been decided that the next meeting of the British Association be held in Bath, under the presidency of Sir Frederick Bramwell, commencing on September 5th, 1888, and that Newcastle be visited the following year.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

THE small planet, No. 267, which was discovered by M. Charlois at Nice on the 27th of May, has been named Tirza.

The comet (*f*, 1887) discovered by Mr. Brooks at the Red House Observatory, Phelps, N.Y., on the night of the 24th of August, was observed at Königsberg on the 27th and following nights. Its orbit has been computed by Dr. Franz from the observations at Königsberg, and there appears to be little doubt that the comet is identical with that discovered by Olbers on the 6th of March, 1815, the period being about seventy-two and a half years, a little longer than it was determined to be by Bessel. On the present occasion it will pass its perihelion about the 13th of October, at the distance from the sun of 1.22 in terms of the earth's mean distance. The comet's distance from the earth is slowly diminishing, and its apparent brightness slightly increasing. Dr. Franz has also computed an ephemeris, from which we extract the following approximate places, calculated for Berlin midnight:—

Date.	R.A.	N.P.D.
Sept. 10	9 46 18	59 48
12	9 56 7	59 51
14	10 6 3	59 57
16	10 16 6	60 5
18	10 26 15	60 15

It is an interesting circumstance that Mr. Brooks was also the first to detect at its last appearance the comet of 1812, which was originally discovered by Pons on the 20th of July in that year, and noticed by Mr. Brooks at its return to our neighbourhood on the 1st of September, 1883.

So unpropitious was the weather along nearly the whole course of the central line of the total eclipse of the sun on the 19th of last month that really successful observations could be obtained at one station only, viz. Petrovsk, where Prof. Glasenapp obtained six drawings and took two photographs of the corona. Dr. Stanoievitch took a series of photographs, and Prof. Kononovitch of Odessa observed a complete spectrum of the corona. At Tomak and other Siberian stations the weather was superb, but owing to the distance and the difficulties of transporting instruments, the astronomers there were not nearly so well equipped as those in European Russia.

CHEMICAL NOTES.

A THIRD crystalline form of carbon seems to have been obtained by Mr. Fletcher during the examination of a meteoric iron from the sub-district of Younegin, West Australia. These crystals, which are left undissolved when the meteorite is treated with aqua regia, are bright, opaque, greyish black, have a metallic lustre, and present forms belonging to the cubic system. The hardness is considerably greater than that of graphite, which the crystals otherwise resemble in density, colour, and streak; the crystalline form is, however, quite different, graphite occurring in tabular crystals so indistinctly formed as to render it uncertain whether they belong to the hexagonal or monosymmetric system whilst the new crystals are sharply defined cubes, of which some have the edges replaced by faces of the rhombic dodecahedron or of a tetrakis-hexahedron. Similar crystals were noticed in 1846 in meteoric graphite, but were considered to be pseudomorphs after iron pyrites; this view Mr. Fletcher shows to be quite untenable.

A new amorphous modification of arsenic has been obtained by Geuther by slowly adding cold water to a mixture of arsenic trichloride and

phosphorus trichloride, and heating the whole to boiling. It is brownish black in colour, and has a specific gravity of 3.70; ordinary amorphous arsenic is black and of specific gravity = 4.71.

It is well known that nitric peroxide, which at high temperatures has a density corresponding with the molecular formula NO_2 , at lower temperatures passes into the saturated molecule N_2O_4 . It seemed, therefore, probable that nitric oxide, whose density at ordinary temperatures corresponds with that of the unsaturated molecule NO , a formula, moreover, not in accordance with the general theory of valency, might at very low temperatures condense to the molecule N_2O_2 . This, however, would seem not to be the case, as the relative densities of air and nitric oxide are exactly the same at -100°C . as at ordinary temperatures.

In a recent number of the *Journal für praktische Chemie* Franke describes the preparation of manganic anhydride, MnO . To obtain it dry potassium permanganate is added to well-cooled sulphuric acid; the green solution formed is either heated at 50°C . after addition of a little water, or better allowed to flow drop by drop on to calcined soda. Violet vapours of manganic anhydride are evolved, and condense in the receiver to a dark-red amorphous mass. When heated at 50° it volatilizes in violet vapours with partial decomposition into manganic dioxide and oxygen. If heated more strongly it is completely decomposed into these substances. It dissolves only sparingly in water with deep-red colour. As was to be expected, it is a most vigorous oxidizing agent. Its ready volatility with but partial decomposition is very surprising.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES.

Mlle. BLANCHE EDWARDS, Interne Provisoire des Hôpitaux, was elected a member of the Society of Anthropology of Paris at its meeting on the 21st of April, and at the following meeting contributed a paper on a case of malformation of the lower extremities in a child under treatment at the Hospice des Enfants Assistés.

M. Hyades has made a report to the same society of his observations among the Fuegians in the form of succinct answers to the society's questionnaire of sociology and ethnography. The people visited by him had had no previous contact with Europeans, and he asserts that there was no tradition of anthropophagy among them. He believes that Admiral Fitzroy was deceived by his informant in that respect. M. Hyades remained among them for a year, and gives much interesting information as to their language and the degree of intelligence they possess.

The registers of observations made by the late Dr. Parrot on the weight of various organs in infancy were left by him in the care of Mlle. Jeanne Bertillon, and that lady has deduced from them with infinite labour a series of statistical tables and a striking graphic presentation of the results. Among the new facts thus established is the rapid growth of the brain in the first six months of life as compared with the increase in height and the growth of other organs. Taking the total growth between birth and six years of age as 100, the weight of the heart increases 11.43 in girls and 11.88 in boys during their first six months of life; the height increases 20.8 in girls and 11.4 in boys; while the weight of brain increases 27.41 in girls and 23.51 in boys.

The Woman's Anthropological Society of Washington has decided to collect information as to the growth of children, and, in the main, to adopt the system used by the Collective Investigation Committee of the British Medical Association. The society invites suggestions from any who may have been independently keeping records, and especially solicits communications from mothers. Mrs. C. B. Hinds gives an interesting account of the manner in which she was induced to commence the study of child-growth in the case of her little daughter in 1881, which has resulted in a systematic record, such as the

mother is best able to keep. The following is given as a partial list of questions:—

"1. Give full name. 2. Previous health of mother, whether under any especial mental or physical stimulus, as fright or sickness. 3. Physical peculiarities, if any, as 'mother's marks.' 4. Weight (naked). 5. Colour of hair. 6. Healthy or ailing. 7. Good-natured or fretful. At what age did the child (8) exhibit consciousness or pain, (9) follow a light with its eyes, (10) sit alone, (11) creep, (12) walk, (13) speak, and what did it say? 14. Character of food. 15. Give average number of hours of sleep in twenty-four hours. 16. State diseases, if any. 17. At what age did child enter school? 18. Amount and character of exercise. 19. Sports. 20. Playthings. 21. Mention any marked artistic capacity. 22. State of memory, retentive or unreliable."

It is pleasant to have to take note of so many instances of woman's work in anthropology as those above mentioned.

Science Gossip.

Two new works on the microscope are announced for publication at an early date by Messrs. Roper & Drowley. One is by Mr. T. Charters White, F.R.M.S., and will treat of the mounting of objects. The other is a practical guide to the working and manipulation of the instrument and its accessories, and is by the author of 'My Microscope,' who writes under the nom de guerre of "A Quekett Club-Man." This volume will be profusely illustrated.

MR. ALVAN CLARK, the great American optician, died at Cambridgeport, Mass., on the 19th ult., in the eighty-fourth year of his age. It was in 1836 that he commenced the occupation by which he became famous, and the excellence of his lenses was first brought under the notice of the scientific world by the late W. R. Dawes. The great 18-inch object-glass now in use at the Dearborn Observatory, Chicago, is of his construction, as were afterwards the 26-inch of the Naval Observatory, Washington, and the still more recent 30-inch of the Pulkowa Observatory. In these later works Mr. Clark had the assistance of his sons, who were associated with him. The masterpiece of the firm was the gigantic 36-inch object-glass constructed for the Lick Observatory, California, which will shortly be brought into use and doubtless furnish the means of achieving many future triumphs for astronomy.

SOME curious news comes from the desolate region of Hudson's Bay, still less known now the company has lost its trading monopoly. The new city of Winnipeg, in Manitoba, having set its mind on getting an outlet to Europe through the bay, Lieut. Gordon, R.N., has been employed by the Dominion Government in the survey. The chief difficulty to the navigation that he has found is the magnetic pole near the straits with a declination of 85°. It turns out that the New Englanders have been long carrying on a considerable trade with the Esquimaux of the large inland sea to the extent of 15,000*l.* a year, the New Bedford people keeping up a permanent post. The Dominion Government is now looking into the matter.

FINE ARTS

'THE VALE OF TEARS.'—DORE'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died. NOW ON VIEW at the Dore Gallery, 35, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Praetorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, 1*s.*

Notes on some Examples of Early Persian Pottery. By H. Wallis. Illustrated. (Biggin Hill, Norwood, the Author.)

THIS fasciculus, copiously illustrated with beautifully drawn and coloured plates, is the sequel to and continuation of a similar work which we noticed at the time, published by Mr. Quaritch in 1885 for the artist whose name it bears. In the preceding work he

described and criticized with acumen certain lustre vases and tiles of Persian origin, the date of which had till then not been clearly made out. He did not hesitate to ascribe these examples to a period at least three centuries earlier than (apart from Egypt) the books gave as that of the origin of lustre ware. He did this on the strength of a notice of the bazaars of Misr written by the Persian traveller Nassari-Khosrau (1035-42), who left no doubt of his meaning as well as of his familiarity with the things he described. The notice is of considerable value, because till lately the oldest known reference to this ware dated it from the fourteenth century. The peculiar, highly artistic, and very apt decoration and charming coloration of Persian ware at large have added greatly to the interest with which painters regard the lustre ware of that nation, whatever is its date, and compel attention to what Mr. Wallis has to say about it. Till recently much writing on Persian pottery was chiefly guesswork, especially as regards the dates and origins of the fabric. There can be no doubt that the utensils illustrated in Mr. Wallis's first essay owe much of their style and taste to Chinese influence. This agrees with historical evidences, records, and analogies bearing on this part of the subject. Thus the internal and external evidences agree. The lustre which gives a charm to the vessels and tiles in question is, however, undoubtedly not Chinese. The subject is exceptionally noteworthy, because, for example, to use the words of our author,

"what we know of the Sassanian dynasty, compiled from brief and dubious chronicles, affords but a feeble conception of the life of the time compared with such a document as the cup of Chosroes in the National Library of Paris. To those comprehending the significance and acquainted with the course and evolution of art, its crystalline medallions speak in language more eloquent, and also more trustworthy, than any book."

The lustre vase, fig. ii., before us, comprising female figures in compartments or panels, is undoubtedly, and apart from its *reflet*, decorated in a Chinese taste, while the figures represent Persians. Of the fragments found at Rhages (which was not far from Teheran), fig. viii., the same may be said, though the technique is decidedly less Chinese and the faces are even more strictly Persian. Rhages was destroyed in 1221. What was found buried on its site was presumably much older than the fourteenth century. So far this is a confirmation of the statement of Nassari-Khosrau, who more than once referred with admiration to the ceramic productions of the Chinese. In the thirteenth century a grandson of Ghengis Khan brought to Persia a thousand Chinese artificers and their families, but no evidence has been found that lustre ware was known in the Celestial Empire. Mr. Wallis concludes the first part of his essay with a stirring appeal to the Government or others concerned in elucidating the history of art to promote excavations in the ruins of ancient Persian cities, where of yore great magnificence was enjoyed, and many fine arts and crafts flourished for centuries until the hand of the conqueror passed over them. He says, with reference to lustre ware:—

"Further researches may possibly bring to light pieces of more importance than any here described.

The specimens remaining of a vase fashioned more than six centuries ago are not likely to be numerous; and when we remember that the cities of Khorassan, and, indeed, most of those in the other provinces of Persia, have been at various times sacked and destroyed—in some instances the soil sown with barley—the chances of such fragile vessels escaping will be recognized as more than usually limited. Never in Italian or Spanish lustre decoration, on the choicest examples from the furnaces of Valencia or from the hand of Maestro Giorgio, have finer or purer qualities of colour been attained than that reflected from some of the thirteenth century Persian tiles. Whether in the ruby, the golden, or the cooler tints, in which the light of emeralds and sapphires is combined, they are unsurpassed in brilliancy and that clear and resonant tone which characterizes the finest lustre decoration. These decorated plaques are also rich in another quality of the art, its variety. The lustre is full of surprises, now appearing almost to obliterate itself and retire within the enamelled surface, allowing its presence to be but barely suspected by the faintest film of coloured mist or a sparkle on some bead or speck on the surface; then, in a sudden flash, it will overwhelm figures and ornaments, transfiguring them in a flood of dazzling radiance. The artists who knew the secret of this decoration would certainly employ it to adorn the vessels in use at the banquet, or that were set forth on the sideboards or stood on embroidered carpets by the fountain's edge. Preserved in mosques or stored in palaces, some few of the masterpieces of the art may yet remain, testifying to the artistic fecundity of an epoch to which our modern civilization offers no parallel, and such testimony is more clear and distinct than that of any records."

Continuing with his subject, the painter of the 'Death of Chatterton' and 'The Stone-Breaker' has examined some lustreless specimens of Persian ware of the same period to which we owe the more gorgeous specimens. Some of these examples were unknown in museums till within two years ago, and the remainder were, and still are in some instances, classed with the output of another century. Any one familiar with the ceramic craft is aware that its history is full of surprising revelations, giving knowledge of past phases of civilization in terms which are, as Mr. Wallis says, more eloquent and more trustworthy than any book. The book of art must needs, however, be read by artists familiar with the growth and changes of design. Five plates were discovered last year in the foundations of a Persian town, which revealed two buildings, one below the other. In the lower the plates were unearthed, and are supposed to have belonged to an edifice of remote date, probably of the thirteenth century, specimens of Persian lustre tiles (of which we now, with almost certainty, know the date) being found with them. The decorations on four of these plates (they formed two pairs) comprise an animal (severally bird and antelope) in the middle of foliage. In three cases the animal is surrounded by an ornamented band of chevrons. The fourth plate bears a wreath-like band of leaves. The fifth plate comprises, instead of the animal, a geometrical interlaced pattern, radial, and very like that known as Solomon's Seal, modifications of which occur in Gothic seals and otherwise of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The ground was originally of a warm white, the decorations being dark blue, turquoise, and black. The paste is close and tough, and

moderately thick; the glaze vitreous, and owing to its long contact with the earth, more or less iridescent. The taste of the craftsman employed to enrich these utensils inclined his hand to a sort of naturalistic draughtsmanship, and a Persian, a born hunter, would be expected to select wild animals for painting, and show them in a state of nature. The bird (it looks like a nightingale) is appropriately perched among leaves and flowers; the antelope is couched in a bed of forest foliage alone. There is no sign of Byzantine formality in any part of the works, and therefore their decorations suggest a period of origin when the influence of the Lower Empire, great as it was in early Mohammedan art, had faded out of vogue. So naturalistic are the decorations before us that they might be modern. At the same time there is no element of mere stereoscopic reality in these drawings, nor any attempt to give solidity by shading or the use of perspective, yet nothing is wanting to give expression to the actions of the animals. Some Persian tiles are dated as of the thirteenth century, and these—e.g., those exhibited with the number 147* at the Burlington Club in 1885—contain drawings of hares ensconced in herbage all closely like the bird and antelope named above. Mr. F. Du Cane Godman owns a tile on which are painted several birds with still closer resemblances to the lately found examples. So closely alike are these decorations that one might venture to say they were all drawn by the same hand. The third plate, with the interlaced decoration in the centre, has for its border certain lines of blue and rude marks which may be meant for half uncurled fronds of ferns. The style throughout these instances is radically different from that of the method of representing birds in a frieze of the period of Shah Abbas the Great (1585–1627), and birds and vases on Persian ware probably of the sixteenth century.

Having with reasonable probability determined the age of the articles in question, Mr. Wallis proceeds to use the data thus obtained to discover the period of three very curious and beautiful vases at South Kensington, two at Sévres, three at Cluny, and one formerly belonging to Mr. C. Drury Fortnum, who gave it to the British Museum. The more important of these examples are figured here with exemplary care, taste, and skill by Mr. Griggs. These relics are the sole known specimens of this class, and they are not only among the most beautiful of that order, but they evidently refer to a common origin. They have long been renowned among students of art. At South Kensington and Cluny the specimens are designated Siculo-Arab, and dated as of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The paste and glaze of these vases are similar to those of the plates; both groups of utensils abound in close analogies of decoration. Fragments have been found at Fostat, in Egypt, which might have been imported, similar to these vases. The analogues of the decorations throughout all these are so striking—this applies to the execution as well as the motives of the specimens—that no artist who compares the illustrations furnished by the fasciculi of Mr. Wallis can for a moment doubt that they belong to the same school.

Although these plates and vases may be accepted as the earliest known specimens of Persian pottery during the Mohammedan era, they are not the earliest specimens of the glazed ware of the empire that modern investigation has made known to us. Among the splendid trophies of M. Dieulafoy's excavations at Susa there are, he has informed Mr. Wallis, some vases of the Achæmenian or a succeeding dynasty, and therefore much more ancient than any here in question. Madame Dieulafoy's handsome tome lately sent to us by MM. Hachette & Co., and entitled '*La Perse, la Chaldée, et la Susiane*,' contains no long reference to this faience, but the account given by the lady of the ancient grouped structures of the *imam zaddi Yaya* (tomb buildings of an imaum) at Verameen, which are distinguished by an interior casing of tiles with *reflets métalliques* of extraordinary brilliancy, provokes great interest in relation to Mr. Wallis's remarks. The more important of these splendid decorations are said to be of the middle of the thirteenth century. The famous mosque at Kashan is partially lined with tiles having a *reflet* and enamels which Madame Dieulafoy describes as equalling in beauty the relics at Verameen. This mosque dates from the fourteenth century. Kashan is the original country of this faience, and seems to have given its name to the *fabrique*. The text before us may be read as a supplement at large to Mr. Wallis's introduction to the catalogue of Persian and Arab works of art exhibited by the Burlington Club in 1885, in the illustrated edition of which several articles above referred to are shown.

THE ART COPYRIGHT ACT.

It appears now to be recognized that, but for the judgment of the Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Lindley in the case of Tuck & Sons v. Priestler, a fatal blow would have been struck at all copyright by the contention put forward by the defendant that registration creates copyright, and that no remedy exists for an infringement, however flagrant, any part of which precedes registration.

This contention is now happily disposed of; but perhaps you will allow me, as the adviser of the plaintiffs in these proceedings, to draw attention to one other point, of the greatest importance to copyright owners, which has been established incidentally in the case. I refer to the principle that a right before publication, analogous to copyright, exists by the common law in works of art as well as in literary works; but that this does not apply to published works, to which alone the statute refers. As regards books and manuscripts, this was established over a century ago, when the manuscripts of Lord Clarendon's '*History*' came into question, and later on when the copyright of Thomson's '*Seasons*' was attacked. No such decision existed as to paintings, but in the argument of Tuck v. Priestler before the Divisional Court, the Solicitor-General, having reviewed the whole of the authorities, forced from the defendant's counsel the admission that the principle laid down in the above cases must be extended to works of art; so that it may now be safely considered that, so far as unpublished works go (and these, it is scarcely necessary to say, are by far the most numerous), there is ample protection independently of the statute.

Of course this still leaves the question of penalties untouched, as it is only by and through the statute that these can be recovered; and on this point it is certainly to be regretted that a feeling of anxiety not to press the penal clauses of the Act should have led to a conclusion which,

as you point out, would leave unpunished nearly all cases of importation of foreign piracies. If, as is to be hoped, the appeal should be carried to the House of Lords, this will no doubt be rectified; but in the mean time owners of works of art must be content to rest on their common law rights, or (in the case of published works) on the more extended remedy of damages, injunction, and forfeiture of copies expressly ratified by the Court of Appeal in this case.

HERBERT BENTWITCH, LL.B.

THE CALDERSTONES.

Walton, Liverpool, Sept. 3, 1887.

IN reply to the letter of B. M. Broadwood in the *Athenæum* of this date, the late Sir J. Y. Simpson, Bart., M.D., visited the stone circle at Calder, and detected the true character of the sculptures on the stones. An account of this monument, which he prepared for the Historic Society of Lancashire, is printed in the *Transactions* of that body for 1865. It is also found, with photographs of the stones, in the selection of his archaeological works published, I think, after his death. All the seven distinct types of "cup and ring cuttings" found in Great Britain and Ireland are represented on these stones. The principal part of this essay is reproduced in a description of the Calderstones I published in a local paper—the *Liverpool Review*—for May 27th and July 4th, 1885. I may add, these stones used to be popularly known in this district as "Robin Hood's bows and arrows."

J. S. ANDERSON, F.E.I.S.

FINE-ART Gossipy.

THE Grosvenor Gallery will at an early date be occupied by an exhibition of pictures of M. Verestschagin, the renowned Russian battle-painter. This will not disturb the usual arrangements for a winter exhibition to be held in the same gallery, and, it is hoped, of an unusually attractive kind.

THE local journals report the appearance of a serious crack above the eastern half of the tower of St. Alban's Abbey, both on its eastern and western faces, and fears are expressed that this circumstance may afford an opportunity for further "restorations" of what remains unvitiated in the ancient edifice, so that Lord Grimthorpe may again work his will on the wreck of St. Alban's.

SIR F. LEIGHTON'S '*Last Watch of Hero*,' which was at the Academy exhibition this year, has been bought for the Manchester Art Gallery, and hung in the exhibition which was opened to the public last week. In the same place has been hung Mr. Watts's picture of '*The Player*,' bought from the Rickards Collection.

THE concluding portion of the third volume of Dr. Woltmann's '*History of Painting*,' of which we lately reviewed the English translation of the second volume, will very shortly be published in German. The author has disclaimed all knowledge of the above-named English version. Dr. Woltmann's new catalogue of pictures in the Dresden Gallery, preparation of which delayed the completion of the '*History of Painting*,' is nearly ready.

AN early number of the *Art Journal* will include an historical, critical, and descriptive article on the schools of the Royal Academy, written by Mr. F. G. Stephens, comprising numerous cuts of students' works produced in those schools, and intended to illustrate the efforts of the Council of the Academy to educate the pupils of this, the oldest and best endowed art school in the kingdom. The Royal Academy schools inherit the historical distinctions of the St. Martin's Lane Academy, to which Hogarth gave the casts and apparatus he received from Sir James Thornhill, who had established a studio in the rear of his house in Covent Garden. The R.A.s expend upon the Academy proper not less than 6,000*l.* a year.

THERE is a report that the Spanish-Americans in Paris and elsewhere have proposed to M. Bartholdi, the designer of 'Liberty enlightening the World,' to form a companion monument on the isthmus of Panama. This is to be dedicated to the Liberator Bolivar. It is stated that the cost is to be 400,000l.

THE current number of the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* contains, with other essays, an account of 'Les Pré-Raphaélites Anglais,' written by M. E. Rod. M. C. Yriarte writes on the portraits of Caesar Borgia, and M. H. Bouchot on portrait-painting in France during the sixteenth century. One of the illustrations of the *Gazette* is a print of Mr. E. Burne Jones's 'Sibylla Delphica,' which will introduce the painter to the French public.

M. MUNKACSÝ is now engaged on the sketches destined for the new Burgtheater at Vienna.

THE Emperor of Austria has founded a new order, entitled "Litteris et Artibus," and intended for men of letters and artists. The following artists have already been nominated members of this society: MM. H. von Angeli; J. Benczur, of Buda-Pesth; J. Matejko; and M. Munkacsý. The learned members are MM. A. d'Arnetti, von Czernhausen, G. Franknoi, J. Hyrtl, C. Keleti, von Kremer, von Miklosich, François, von Sikel, Stein, and J. Unger.

Two ancient brazen Roman helmets are reported to have been discovered near Chur, in Switzerland. The inscription of the one shows that the name of the owner was Publius Cavidius Felix, and that he belonged to the *centuria* of Caius Petronius; whilst the inscription of the other gives the name of Numerius Paponius, belonging to the *centuria* of Lucius Turetedius of Cohort III. Both helmets have been sold. It is to be hoped that they are not productions of the antiquity manufacturing company recently discovered in Switzerland.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

WORCESTER MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

THERE is such a strong general likeness between the successive festivals of the Three Choirs as to render detailed description in these columns mostly superfluous, except in the case of the production of novelties. From the conditions under which they are held it would be unreasonable to expect the same high finish of performance which may fairly be looked for at such festivals as those of Birmingham or Leeds; and the class of hearers to which such music meetings as that just held at Worcester appeals is not that from which the frequenters of other festivals are mostly drawn. To the residents in the Midland Counties the Three Choir Festivals are in many cases the only opportunities afforded of hearing music of the highest class, and it is unnecessary to judge the performances by the high standard which would be applied elsewhere. It is, nevertheless, incumbent on the managers to do their utmost to keep up the standard of excellence to as high a pitch as possible; and if from any cause this is not done, it becomes a plain duty on the part of those who lead public opinion to point out shortcomings and to indicate their causes.

We have been led to make these remarks by the performance of 'Elijah' with which the Worcester Festival opened last Tuesday. Mendelssohn's oratorio is a work which may be reasonably assumed to have been familiar to every member of the band and chorus who took part in it; but, to tell the honest

truth, the rendering was one of the least satisfactory in our recollection. The entries were frequently uncertain, and the attack at times painfully weak. For this the blame must rest solely with the conductor. We desire to speak with all possible respect of Mr. Done, the cathedral organist, an excellent musician and a most estimable artist. He is, however, some time past the allotted threescore years and ten, and at that period of life it is physically impossible that he should possess the nervous energy necessary for the efficient conducting of an oratorio. He is not to be blamed because he is forced into a position to which he is no longer equal; but the committee would have acted more wisely had they entrusted his work to a younger man. Some of the soloists—Madame Albani, Miss Anna Williams, and Mr. Lloyd—have so often been heard in 'Elijah' that it is needless to say a word in praise of their singing; but two of the artists whose names are most associated with these festivals—Madame Patey and Mr. Santley—were not engaged on this occasion. The part of the prophet was sung by Mr. Watkin Mills, one of the most promising of our younger bass singers, who gave an excellent reading of the music, though the part lies too high for his voice; while Madame Patey was efficiently replaced by Miss Hope Glenn, a singer who has hardly met with the recognition to which her merits entitle her. A word of praise is also due to Miss Eleanor Rees for her singing of the contralto music in the first part of the oratorio.

The first of the evening concerts, given in the Public Hall on Tuesday, attracted an audience which crowded the room to its utmost capacity. This was no doubt due to the fact that the chief part of the programme was occupied with Sullivan's 'Golden Legend.' The favour with which this work was received on the occasion of its first production at the Leeds Festival last year shows no sign of abatement; nor is this surprising when the many excellencies of the cantata are borne in mind. We have so often spoken of the work that it is needless to repeat the opinions already expressed. The fact that it has established itself firmly in the affections of concert-goers is, we think, a healthy sign; for Sir Arthur Sullivan's music is vigorous, full of fancy, and, where required, highly emotional. The strong points of the work were brought out by a performance of unusual excellence on Tuesday under the direction of Mr. C. L. Williams. The conductor was not only perfectly acquainted with the score, but knew how to impart his intentions clearly to the performers. The solo parts were sung by Miss Anna Williams, Miss Hope Glenn, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Watkin Mills, and Mr. Brereton. Miss Williams deserves special praise for her singing of the music of Elsie, which was characterized by great tenderness and feeling. Miss Glenn scored a distinct success as Ursula, while Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Mills did full justice to their respective parts. The orchestral playing was excellent, and the singing of the choruses by a select choir of some eighty voices from Leeds was truly remarkable for richness and volume of tone, as well as for delicacy and absolute purity of intonation. The cantata was listened to with rapt attention, and excited enthusiastic

applause. The most important feature of the second part of the too long concert was Mozart's Symphony in E minor.

The selection of music given on Wednesday morning was admirable, comprising Schubert's Mass in E flat, Mendelssohn's 'Hear my prayer,' and Spohr's 'Last Judgment.' Schubert's exquisite mass, the last of six which he composed, was written in 1828, only a few months before his early death. It is in his ripest and latest style, and may almost be considered unique in its combination of the romantic and devotional elements. The fervour of the 'Kyrie' and 'Credo,' the breadth and majesty of the 'Gloria' and 'Sanctus,' and the celestial sweetness of the 'Et incarnatus' and 'Benedictus' are unapproached in any other of Schubert's sacred works; and for beauty of idea and the high level at which the music is sustained the Mass in E flat may be ranked by the side of the masses of Beethoven and Cherubini. In his fugal writing Schubert is less successful; and the 'Cum sancto Spiritu' and 'Et vitam venturi sæculi' are the weakest parts of a work which, taken as a whole, is one of the most striking monuments of its composer's genius. The performance at Worcester unfortunately gave but a very inadequate idea of the beauty of the work. Some of the *tempi* were painfully dragged, and there was a general coarseness about the rendering of the music which only too plainly showed the need of a competent conductor. The directing of the mass was evidently a task altogether beyond Mr. Done's strength. The soloists (Madame Albani, Miss Hope Glenn, and Messrs. McGuckin, Dyson, and Brereton) were admirable, and band and chorus worked with a will; but without a firm hand at the helm a satisfactory result was impossible. Mendelssohn's lovely hymn, in which the solo was exquisitely sung by Madame Albani, fared better. Of a work so well known as Spohr's 'Last Judgment' it will suffice to say that the solos were sung by Miss Anna Williams, Miss Hope Glenn, Mr. Barton McGuckin, and Mr. Watkin Mills. The remainder of the festival took place too late to be noticed in the present number.

Musical Gossip.

MR. CARL ROSA has just added Auber's 'Masaniello' to his provincial repertory, with Signor Runcio in the leading part. It is more than twenty years since the French composer's masterpiece has been heard in London, and its revival would probably be successful, particularly as spectacle is now regarded as a necessary element in opera.

At the end of the present month Josef Hofmann, the gifted young pianist, will return to this country for six weeks to fulfil engagements in London and the provinces. He will appear at the first Crystal Palace Concert on October 8th, and on the 10th he will give the first of a series of three recitals at St. James's Hall. He will also appear twice at the Popular Concerts, which will commence on the 24th. In November he will go to America for an extended tour under the direction of Mr. Abbey.

NEXT month Mr. Barton McGuckin will leave for America, where he will appear in 'Lohengrin,' Rubinstein's 'Nero,' and other works, in the National Opera Company's performances. It is also likely that Mr. Edward Lloyd will fulfil a short American engagement next spring, returning in time for the Handel Festival.

HERR ZUMPE's operetta 'Farinelli' has been favourably received at Berlin.

THE popular *Lieder* composer Franz Abt is to have a monument erected at Brunswick. The sum of about 24,000 marks has already been collected for that purpose.

WE have received 'The Abbé Liszt: the Story of his Life,' by Raphaël Ledos de Beaufort (Ward & Downey). The halo of romance surrounding the artistic and private career of the late Franz Liszt necessarily offers great attractions to would-be biographers. The present work, however, cannot pretend to very high rank, and the author has shown prudence in describing it as the story of Liszt's life, since it deals scarcely at all with the great *virtuoso* as a musician and composer, very few of his works being even mentioned by name. It is a chatty, readable sketch of a favourite of society, and, but for the subject-matter of which it has sometimes to treat, we might almost infer that it was intended for young readers. It is a pity M. de Beaufort did not submit the text to some competent English musician for correction in the matter of technical expressions, as it is scarcely possible to read a dozen pages without meeting with some glaring anachronism. Perhaps the oddest paragraph is this: "It is worthy of remark that, unlike most composers, Liszt's productions are written in two-four time. The same remark holds good as regards the key. Franz Liszt and Franz Schubert are, it is believed, the only composers who wrote their variations in G flat." What the author means by this it is not easy to determine. We read that Ferdinand Ries wrote a concerto in G flat and another in E sharp; and that Chopin made his *début* in Paris in his Concerto in E flat. As regards matters of fact, perhaps the most extraordinary misstatement is that Liszt's daughter Cosima was the widow of Hans von Bülow when she married Wagner! The author's knowledge of German must be extremely rudimentary, or he would scarcely describe Haydn as "Kapelmeister" to Prince Esterhazy, or tell us that Liszt as a lad "was already known under the name of Der Künstler." The most interesting chapter is that on Liszt's later life in Weimar, extracted from Miss Amy Fay's 'Music Study in Germany.' The book has two portraits of the master and one of the Countess d'Agout.

WE have also to hand 'Common Praise,' by F.G. Edwards (Curwen & Sons). This little volume is described as "a practical handbook of Non-conformist church music," and it consists mainly of selections from the replies received from 226 Dissenting chapels to a series of questions on the subject of service-music addressed to them by the author. That the result is a bewildering diversity of opinion as to the place music should occupy in public worship, and the manner of its execution, goes almost without saying, but to those interested the mass of information cannot fail to be valuable. Mr. Edwards is himself an able musician, and his own views are those of moderation and common sense.

DRAMA

Ocho Comedias Desconocidas. Dadas á luz por Adolf Schaeffer. 2 vols. (Leipzig, Brockhaus.)

HERR SCHAEFFER has reprinted for the benefit of students of the Spanish drama eight plays out of twelve contained in an old volume in his possession. In his rather curt preface he does not say where he acquired the book; he merely states that it contains 309 pages, and has no title-page nor *aprobacion* nor *tassa*, nor anything indicating where or when it was printed. He conjectures that it may be one of the first five-and-twenty volumes of the collection of

"Comedias de diferentes Autores," and he supposes that it was printed before 1618. The question of its belonging to the collection of "Comedias" may be left undiscussed till it is proved that these twenty-five volumes ever existed; as to the date we should not like to be quite so positive as Herr Schaeffer, more especially as we have not seen his book, but we believe his *comedias* to be genuine, and he deserves to be congratulated on his acquisition, and thanked for having printed these volumes.

Herr Schaeffer's treasure contains, as has been said, twelve plays, but as four of them were already accessible to scholars, he has wisely confined his reprint to the eight which have hitherto escaped notice. They belong to the time of Lope de Vega. Four of them are assigned to Luis Velez de Guevara, one of the most faithful followers of the Phoenix; two to Guillem de Castro, the author of 'The Cid'; one to Salustio del Poyo; and one to three unknown authors. That by Salustio del Poyo, 'The Life and Death of Judas,' is a fair example of a third-rate Spanish drama founded on Biblical history. Judas is a specimen of the type of character which Goethe calls *dæmonic*, and which had always an attraction for Spanish playwrights, more especially for Calderon. The plot is a wild one, the writer taking great liberties with the Scriptural narrative, and producing a melodrama full of bloodshed and sudden changes of fortune. The language is direct and simple, as becomes a disciple of Lope. A better piece is 'The Badge of St. Anthony,' which Herr Schaeffer thinks is not by Guillem de Castro, to whom it is credited, because, he says, it does not possess the very marked characteristics of that author. There seems to be in the Osuna Library a manuscript drama with the same title, ascribed to Andres de Claramonte; but as that celebrated collection is at present inaccessible, there is no possibility of ascertaining if the pieces are identical. Herr Schaeffer has omitted to notice that the date of the play is fixed by three lines on pp. 138-9—

En los venturosos dias
De un gran Felipe Tercero,
Y una sacra Margarita—

as between 1598 and October, 1611. This is, of course, consistent with the authorship of Claramonte, who died in 1610. That it is by him it would be rash to assert, for the play has no very distinctive characteristics on which a judgment might be founded. The other piece ascribed to Don Guillem, 'The Repentant Renegade,' is unluckily a specimen of that writer at his worst. It has some lyrical sweetness, but the plot is such as to justify all the evil that has ever been said of Spanish playwrights. The 'Caballero de Olmedo' is, it seems, ascribed to the beginning to Lope, but at its close the play is said to be the work of three authors. It is quite different from Lope's piece which bears the same title, and which also relates the murder of Don Alonso; and of course it has nothing in common with Montresor's burlesque. It is the best piece in the volume. There is dramatic intensity in the hatred of the English Count for the Caballero, and in the attachment of Doña Elvira to her lover. Real power is shown in the scenes between Doña Elvira and the Count. It is to be noted, too, that the door-

keeper who betrays Doña Elvira to the Count is a departure from the conventional type of servant. He has little of the *gracioso* about him. His callousness and his desire to side with the stronger party are excellently brought out. The finest thing in the whole play is the line put into his mouth when Doña Elvira forces him to carry away the dead body of the Count:—

¡Como pesa! Era robusto.

This is a touch worthy of Webster.

Of the four plays by Luis Velez de Guevara there is no need to say much. There is a vein of exaggeration about 'The Prince of Transylvania'—acceptable enough to a Spanish audience, always willing to believe one Christian a match for ten Turks—that renders it ineffective; nor can much be said for 'The Hercules of Ocaña,' which is simply, like Middleton's 'Roaring Girl,' a play founded on the popular notoriety of a contemporary personage. It is in its favour that there is less rant than one might have expected. Diamante, as Herr Schaeffer points out, made use of this piece in one of his dreary dramas. Nor is the 'Devotion of the Mass,' a species of tract in the guise of a play, intended to inculcate the advantages of going to mass daily, likely to attract modern readers. On the other hand, 'The King Don Sebastian,' may rank among the best of Guevara's works. The subject, of course, is so dramatic that it has over and over again been utilized on the stage. Peele (?) and Dryden both tried to make a play out of

That great batell at Alcozor fought.

To Lope is assigned in Huerta's catalogue a play called 'El Rey Don Sebastian.' The drama Herr Schaeffer has printed would certainly do no discredit to the great name of Lope. There is especially a scene in the second act between the king and a herdsman which is exceedingly well conceived and resembles Lope's work.

The text of the 'Caballero de Olmedo' is disfigured by many errors, and Herr Schaeffer has treated it most judiciously. He has made a number of corrections which attest his sound knowledge of Spanish and an unusual familiarity with the Spanish dramatists, at the same time mentioning in footnotes the original readings, while on other occasions he modestly prints his proposed alteration in a note, leaving the text unaltered; and in cases where he has no remedy to suggest he has pointed out the corruption. He has also made occasional emendations in the other plays. All this editorial work has been done with discretion, and must have cost Herr Schaeffer both labour and time. Of course we do not always agree with the learned editor; and we may note a few passages in which we venture to differ from him. To be quite fair we ought to quote some of his excellent emendations, but a regard for the reader's patience forces us to confine ourselves to passages which he seems not to have quite succeeded in restoring. In the 'Caballero de Olmedo' (p. 278) we think that for "Contrastaste vida en vano" he has not happily substituted "Cánsaste, Elvira, en vano," which sounds very flat. Nor do we like the line on p. 287 "Mi vida aquel, que él sólo gigantes mata." On p. 319 he has altered "Tú en buscar postas me olvida" into "Tú en buscar postas me

cuida"; we should be inclined to read "Tú el buscar postas no olvida." In vol. ii. p. 5, for "el monte" *at monte* should obviously be substituted.

THE WEEK.

DRURY LANE.—'Pleasure,' a Drama in Six Acts. By Paul Meritt and Augustus Harris.

GAIETY.—Revival of 'Fun on the Bristol,' a "Two-Act Musical Comedy."

COMEDY.—'The Barrister,' a Farcical Comedy in Three Acts. By George Manville Fenn and J. H. Darnley.

WHILE the efforts of the managers of our popular theatres are devoted to more and more realistic reproductions of existing scenes or physical phenomena, the plots of dramas are allowed to become attenuated to the point of disappearance. Six acts have been found necessary to bring on the stage the scenery with which Messrs. Meritt and Harris have surrounded what they please to consider a dramatic fable. The story itself is, however, inadequate to two acts. The management, indeed, proceeds on the principle of those who add extra illustrations to a biographical work. Every scene or person mentioned, and everything connected with both, may be regarded as furnishing opportunity for an illustration. The story told by Messrs. Meritt and Harris is this. A young undergraduate finds himself raised by an accident to a peerage. His next-of-kin and heir presumptive, knowing his weakness, tries to keep him unmarried, and accordingly tells him the woman to whom he is betrothed is false. This statement is accepted without confirmation, and the young nobleman proceeds to drink himself to death. Before the process is quite carried out he learns he has been tricked and marries his true love. This is the entire plot. Now for the illustrations. At the outset the hero is at Oxford. Here the quarrel between the lovers takes place. We have accordingly two scenes—very good they are—of the outside of the Sheldonian Theatre, and the river by the university barge. This portion winds up with a "wine" in a man's room, which is, of course, a travesty. As the hero has to go away somewhere, he goes to the Riviera. We are then favoured with views of Monte Carlo and Nice, and are let in for the Carnival with its accompanying frivolities and the earthquake. The last-named calamity becomes the means of reconciling the lovers, and we have then an act in England, where, in a country church, the marriage takes place. Throw in the undergraduates of Oxford, the prostitutes of Monte Carlo, and the rustics of Lovel Magna, and the play is provided. So far as the public is concerned no great fault is to be found. An attractive spectacle is furnished. The representation of the earthquake is a remarkable stage effect, the battle of flowers is a specially pretty and bustling scene, and if the Carnival ball is less effective, it must be remembered that it has no strong element of novelty, masqued balls having been a constant stage device any time this century. If some slightly unedifying proceedings on the part of female frequenters of Monte Carlo are presented, it must be remembered that the unsexed women exhibited are principally foreigners, and that they have their prototypes in real life. In these things meanwhile the dramatic story is scarcely more than the explanations with which

some paid lecturer accompanies the evolution of a panorama. It is futile to object to this. Successive managers have been charged with rendering Drury Lane the home of mere spectacle. Not very full or exact are our theatrical records. It may, however, be maintained that the same charge has been brought, with almost equal justice, for a couple of centuries. Turning back to 1687, we find the piece assumably given at this period of the year at Drury Lane was 'The Emperor of the Moon,' a grossly improbable spectacular farce of Mrs. Aphra Behn; and in the season of 1787-8, although Drury Lane could boast actors such as Mrs. Siddons, Mrs. Jordan, Miss Farren, Miss Pope, Kemble, King, Wroughton, Suett, Bannister, Palmer, Bensley, and Dodd, Cobb's idiotic extravaganza 'Love in the East' found its way to the stage. With all its defects on its head 'Pleasure' is not much worse than a score pieces that have been seen at one or other of the patent theatres, and as a spectacle it takes precedence of most. Characters without a spark of human nature or consistency furnish poor material for actors. It is to the credit of Miss Alma Murray, accordingly, that she contrived to render sympathetic the extremely unconventional proceedings of the heroine. Mr. Gardiner, Mr. H. Nicholls, and Miss Fanny Brough also acted with commendable earnestness.

A piece with less claim to rank as art than 'Fun on the Bristol,' first produced five years ago at the Olympic, cannot well be imagined. It is none the less one of the most innocently diverting combinations of pantomime, farce, and negro minstrelsy that have been put upon the stage. It is well acted throughout, and the representation by Mr. John F. Sheridan of Widow O'Brien, though belonging to a class of performance always to be regarded with mistrust, is very clever, and almost rises into comedy. Other characters, purely posteros, are played with remarkable spirit, and the whole is a favourable specimen of the class of production in which the theatre comes into closest competition with the music-hall.

'The Barrister,' produced on Tuesday night at the Comedy Theatre, is in its class one of the briskest and most effervescent pieces that have during late years been put upon the stage. Owing nothing, apparently, to a foreign source, and never for one moment trespassing over the bounds of propriety, it is as mirthful as the best Palais Royal farce. Its singularly complicated plot is managed with extreme ingenuity, and the audience, itself in the centre of light, watches the struggles in darkness of some of the most perplexed beings it is often permitted to contemplate. No fewer than three separate intrigues are worked together, and while the threads are held separately and no confusion is permitted, the scenes of equivocation to which the situations give rise are admirably comic. As 'The Barrister' is smartly written and competently acted, its success was enthusiastic. Mr. J. H. Darnley, one of the authors, played a light-comedy part in excellent fashion; and Messrs. Walter Everard and F. Mervyn, Misses Leyton, Hunt, and Verity, and other members of the company, played with much spirit and a creditable

amount of preparedness. Messrs. Fenn and Darnley are to be congratulated upon a success which, in this line of piece, has not lately been rivalled.

Dramatic Gossip.

COVENT GARDEN will this year once more challenge the supremacy of Drury Lane in pantomimes. The theatre will be under the management of Messrs. Freeman Thomas and Purkiss.

THE 2nd of November has been fixed for the promised benefit to Mr. John Hollingshead. It will take place at Drury Lane, lent for the occasion by Mr. Augustus Harris.

In addition to the theatres which have this week resumed performances, Toole's Theatre will open on Monday with 'Dandy Dick,' prefaced by a comedietta by Mr. A. M. Heathcote, entitled 'Woman's Wrongs.' The Haymarket will, it is expected, reopen on Thursday; and the Strand, under the management of Miss Lydia Thompson, on the 21st inst. On the 19th Mr. Thorne and the 'Sophia' company will reappear at the Vaudeville. Mr. Terry's new theatre in the Strand will not, it is expected, be fit to receive the public until next month.

MESSRS W. E. HENLEY and R. L. STEVENSON have rearranged and to some extent rewritten their old five-act play 'Deacon Brodie; or, the Double Life.' The new version will be produced, under the direction of Mr. E. J. Henley, at Montreal on the 26th inst., and—after a series of representations at Quebec, Toronto, Boston, Philadelphia, and other cities—at the Star Theatre, New York, about December 1st. Mr. Henley will himself sustain the part of the hero, as on the occasion of the two matinées at the Prince of Wales's, London, and at Wallack's Theatre, New York—at which the play has been seen; Messrs. Edmund Grace and Desmond will likewise repeat their original characters; while the part of the deacon's sister, which has been greatly strengthened in the process of revision, will be played by Miss Annie Robe, for the past two seasons the leading actress at Wallack's Theatre.

THE performance at the Novelty Theatre of 'The Blue Bells of Scotland' was, at the last moment, postponed until Monday next, when it will come into collision with the reopening of Toole's Theatre.

'RACING' is the title of a drama by Mr. G. H. Macdermott, produced at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on Monday night. It is a clever piece in its class, and includes one or two spectacular scenes wholly to the taste of the public. Miss Fanny Leslie, Messrs. Bassett Roe, Maude, and F. Robson took part in the interpretation.

MR. BARRY SULLIVAN, who has for some time been in bad health, is better, though not sufficiently recovered to appear on the stage at present.

THE new and terrible accident at the Exeter Theatre was due apparently to the cause to which most similar calamities are traceable, the communication of fire to the flies, the most desiccated portion of a theatre. While the public retains such short memories managers will continue to neglect elementary precautions. Once more there will be an outcry, and once more nothing serious will be done. It is time the truth should be known, however,—that the so-called inspections of theatres are mockeries. Before a theatre is visited by the authorities the management is told of the day and hour. Everything is then, of course, in order; and so soon as the inspector's back is turned the old state of things is resumed. Truly we are an unteachable people.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. B. S.—A. H.—A. B.—S. D.—G. F. H.—E. G.—M. O.—received.
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO.'S PUBLICATIONS.

THE ENGLISH ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE.

PROSPECTUS FOR THE YEAR 1887-1888.

With the issue of the October Number THE ENGLISH ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE will enter upon the fifth year of its existence, and the Editor therefore takes this opportunity of setting before his readers the arrangements that have been made for the New Volume.

The fact that the past year has proved the most prosperous since the date of its establishment encourages him to maintain and to develop the special features of the undertaking, which have already won so large a share of public favour. It has been shown that the public is fully prepared to recognize and appreciate the sacrifices that have been made in order to secure the undisputed excellence of the illustrations of the Magazine; and therefore no pains will be spared to keep the work in this department up to its present high standard. While advantage will be taken of every process that may be fitly employed in the rendering of artistic design, continued and increased encouragement will be given to the higher school of wood engraving, the delicate beauty of whose work is beyond the rivalry of any mechanical process.

It is a satisfaction to the Editor to feel that his efforts in this direction, both as regards the quality of the engraving itself and the refinement of printing needed to do justice to the engraver's work, have been warmly appreciated by many of the most distinguished painters of the English school, who have generously placed at his disposal many valued examples of their art; and he is happy to be able to announce that for the coming year arrangements have already been made for the reproduction of designs by Sir FREDERICK LEIGHTON, Bart., P.R.A., Sir JOHN MILLAIS, Bart., R.A., JAMES SANT, R.A., E. BURNE JONES, A.R.A., C. NAPIER HEMY, HAMILTON MACALLUM, E. F. BREWSTER, &c.

The Editor has also secured the continued and exclusive services of Mr. HUGH THOMSON, a young artist whose talent is well known to the readers of THE ENGLISH ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE, and whose charming illustrations to 'Sir Roger de Coverley' serve to place him high in the rank of original designers in black and white.

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